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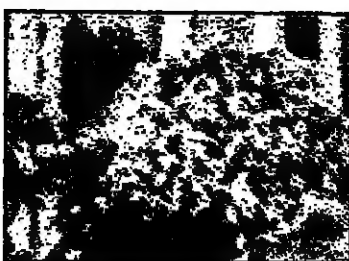
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7 International

Kosovo solution in sight



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Potted glory



Braves still alive

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Fires said under control

By DAVID RUDGE

Fires that have ravaged huge tracts of the Mt. Carmel range and caused damage running into millions of dollars appeared to be finally under control last night — after four days of intense effort.

Nevertheless, Fire and Rescue Service officials were cautious, noting that the high winds that turned what would normally have been small brush fires into raging fire storms had not yet abated completely.

The infernos of Monday appeared to have been extinguished by early yesterday, but suddenly the fires broke out anew later in the morning and the havoc and devastation continued.

Jewish National Fund wardens

Fire chief: We're operating at 25% capacity, Page 4

and Nature Reserve and National Parks Authority rangers assisted in the fire-fighting efforts to save properties, but their thoughts were also directed to the damage wreaked to the environment.

One official described the fires as an ecological disaster that would take decades to repair. At least 10,000 dunams (2,500 acres) of forest, natural brush, and woodland have been destroyed in the Carmel fires, and an as yet unknown number of wild animals killed.

The guest house of Moshav Nir Etzion was gutted yesterday despite valiant efforts by firemen, airmen, and residents to stem the blaze.

The home of the Friedman family, whose son Magen was killed by a Hizbullah roadside bomb in south Lebanon at the beginning of Succot, was one of those damaged.

The family had refused to leave their home on Monday, but had little alternative yesterday as the flames literally engulfed the outskirts of the community.

See FIRES, Page 3



Police prepare to remove the body of Itamar Doron from beside the spring near Moshav Ora yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

1 dead in Jerusalem terror shooting

By AMY KLEIN

Terrorists shot and killed Itamar Doron, 24, and seriously wounded Ilan Mazon, 25, yesterday afternoon in what police believe was a premeditated attack at a spring near Moshav Ora, just outside Jerusalem.

Doron, a resident of Ora, and Mazon, a resident of the neighboring Moshav Aminadav, were bathing in the small spring, which served them as a mikve (ritual bath), when the Arab attackers shot them, Mazon told police. The spring is in a wadi that separates Ora and Aminadav from the Arab villages of Batir and Walaja.

The terrorists fled in Doron's station wagon, abandoning it in

Walaja. The IDF sealed the village and is searching for the suspects, who they believe fled into a Palestinian Authority-controlled area.

"This was planned, in this place, during this time, in order to hurt these people," Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki said.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said that there would be no deal in the US summit, starting tomorrow, if the Palestinians do not begin fulfilling their security commitments.

Police Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk suggested that we can expect attacks of this sort — stabbings, shootings — because security forces have prevented more serious attacks.



Itamar Doron (Flash 90)

"Jerusalem is not hermetically sealed, and police cannot be present at every location, every hour. Fortunately, we have suc-

ceeded in preventing many terrorist attacks," he said.

President Ezer Weizman told a conference for Holocaust survivors in Tel Aviv he hopes the assailants will be captured, "although this is one of those things that is very difficult to prevent. I hope the Palestinian Authority will do something, as it promised."

A passerby discovered the two wounded men at about 12:30 p.m., followed by a second man, Binyamin Penjel, 52, who said he had heard the gunshots. Penjel saw a badly bleeding Mazon and the other man trying to drag Doron from the spring.

See TERROR, Page 3

Netanyahu after terror attack:

No chance for deal right now

By DANNA HARMAN and news agencies

There will be no deal if the Palestinians do not begin fulfilling their security commitments, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said following yesterday's attack near Moshav Ora.

In a statement released by his office, Netanyahu said that if the attackers fled into Palestinian Authority-controlled territory — as intelligence reports indicated — he would demand that PA Chairman Yasser Arafat act immediately to apprehend them.

"Without such a fulfillment of security demands, there will be no agreement, and in light of this gloomy reality, there is absolutely no chance, at this stage, of signing an agreement," he said.

US State Department spokesman James Rubin declined to comment directly on the statement, but said reaching a deal at the summit, which starts tomorrow, is not "a

sure thing." Netanyahu and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright spoke by telephone yesterday.

"One of the areas where we want

Premier's nine points, Page 2

to broaden the understandings and broaden the agreement is on security," Rubin said. "We made substantial and significant progress on it during the secretary's trip and in subsequent days. But we need to broaden the understandings and expand the areas of agreement in that area as well as many other areas."

"Clearly there are a large number of hurdles that have to be overcome if we are going to get any agreement," he said.

See DEAL, Page 3

Shekel up 1.69% vs. dollar

Histadrut meets to discuss depreciation effects

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The shekel continued its recovery against the dollar yesterday, gaining another 1.69 percent against the US currency in what dealers described as mixed and balanced trading.

The representative rate for the dollar was fixed at NIS 4.188 and traders said the market is expected to stabilize soon at the current level.

"I believe the shekel will continue to trade at a range of NIS 4.1 to NIS 4.25 per dollar in the next several days," said a dealer at Bank Leumi. "The market was less volatile today and liquidity was much higher."

The shekel has gained almost 3% during the last two trading days, after falling some 10% since the beginning of the month.

Dealers said that trading opened with a supply of foreign currency from the banks, which pushed up the shekel. They added that when the dollar reached NIS 4.1, the business sector started buying foreign currency. Unlike the one-sided trading witnessed during Succot's shortened trading sessions, traders said yesterday's volume was high and the market was more balanced.

The shekel appreciated 1.95% against the currency basket,

which was fixed at NIS 4.609. The shekel has also recovered against all other major currencies, with a rise of 2.39% against the mark and 3.1% against the yen.

The rise of the shekel was accompanied by sharp gains on

Sharansky: Depreciation to spur growth, Page 13

the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The Tel Aviv 100 index rose 4.13% to 259.48, while the Maof 25 index surged 4.65% to 262.96. Meanwhile, the Histadrut leadership met to discuss the possible

effects of the recent depreciation on wage agreements.

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz said that the previous wage agreements were based on inflation expectations of only 3%-4% a year. According to Peretz, the recent depreciation of the shekel might lead to annual inflation of 7%-8%, and the Histadrut is demanding immediate negotiations to discuss compensating wage earners.

Peretz said that public sector workers' demand for a 8% wage increase in 1998 is justified. He added that the government would also be asked to provide special compensation for the elderly, new immigrants, and young couples who pay dollar-linked rent and mortgages.

PM: Stocks undervalued

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

The economy, especially the stock market and real estate, is undervalued and far from reaching its full potential, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said last night.

The economy has "only partly percolated to the world's markets," he said, speaking at the opening ceremony of the Prime Minister's Jubilee Business Summit. He

noted that the current per capita gross domestic product (GDP) of some \$17,000 can easily be doubled in the near future.

Painting a glowing picture of the economy's present and future, Netanyahu argued that "the vision is not a dream; it is achievable. I don't think any other country has this potential."

See PM, Page 2

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NEWS

in brief

Egyptian court rejects case against group

CAIRO (AP) — A court yesterday dismissed a case by a lawyer seeking to shut down the first Egyptian peace group that aims at improving ties with Israelis, police said.

The court said that Mamdouh Nakhla, the lawyer who filed the case, had no direct interest in the issue and that his petition to the court was therefore invalid, police said, speaking on customary condition of anonymity. Nakhla had argued that Egyptian law does not allow groups set up as associations to promote political issues.

The Cairo Peace Movement, which was launched by a group of Egyptian intellectuals in April, works to promote peace with Israel.

Sharon appointment official

Ariel Sharon is now officially foreign minister. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday advised the cabinet of the appointment, and the ministers extended their best wishes to Sharon. According to the new election law, there is no need to bring ministerial appointments to a vote in Knesset.

Sharon will continue to serve as national infrastructure minister for three months, ostensibly to wrap up several projects. Simultaneously, he will take up the reins in the Foreign Ministry. Sharon yesterday met with US Ambassador Edward Walker and spoke by phone with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Albright told Sharon she is looking forward to working closely with him. He is scheduled to meet with Director-General Eytan Bentsur and other ministry staffers this morning. *Danna Harman*

Boy, 16, killed by stray grenade

A grenade exploded in an olive grove near Nablus yesterday, killing Burhan Ibrahim, 16, and burning his mother. Six others were wounded in the incident.

IDF and Palestinian sources said the blast was caused by a grenade found by the teenager near the village of Azawya, about 25 kilometers north of Nablus, as he was harvesting olives. Ibrahim was taken to Rafadiya Hospital in Nablus for treatment and died a few hours later.

An IDF source said the teenager was apparently playing with a grenade. Villagers blamed the IDF for the explosion, saying munitions are routinely found there, since Azawya is near an IDF training ground. *Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib*

Arabs asked Arafat to speak, school wanted Netanyahu too

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — An Arab student group at Ohio State University withdrew its invitation to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to speak on the campus because the school insisted Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu be invited as well.

Malcolm Baroway, the school's chief spokesman, said Monday the conditions were made in the interest of balance.

"This was a unique situation that developed with two world leaders in the country at the same time," he said.

Ohio State's Arab Student Association, however, said the decision showed a double standard. "This was to be a historical event of international proportions," said Jad A. Humeidan, president of the group. "This attempt at reaching a balance seems to be only applicable when the speaker is a Palestinian figure."

He said the students in his group are not opposed to an invitation

going to the Israeli prime minister. "I'd love to hear him speak," Humeidan said. "I have a few questions for him myself. But I'm opposed to that being made a condition of Arafat's invitation."

Nasser Kidwa, permanent observer of Palestine to the UN, told *The Columbus Dispatch* on Monday that his office had been prepared to recommend to Arafat that he accept the invitation from Ohio State.

"Normally, our recommendations are not taken lightly," Kidwa said. Arafat's New York office would require a letter from the university indicating its support for the appearance.

Baroway said the university was prepared to send a pair of invitations: one to Arafat on behalf of the Arab student group, the International Law Society, and the Muslim Student Association, and the other to Netanyahu on behalf of the Hillel Foundation and the Columbus Schottenstein Habad House.

last two years, but urged the country follow a future path of "simplicity, fairness, and equality."

Tonight, some 60 of the world's top companies will receive prizes for their contributions to the domestic economy, among them The Jerusalem Post's parent company Hollinger International.

Hollinger has invested more than \$50 million since it purchased the Post nine years ago.

"To my mind *The Jerusalem Post* would not have existed had Hollinger not come in the way it had," said Post President Paul Staszewski. "This was a typical investment for Hollinger. It's a newspaper with a good franchise and a good name, with large circulation, which at the time was losing money."

Staszewski confirmed that Hollinger is currently looking to increase its investment base here.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our husband, brother, father, and grandfather

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Helen Rivkian and daughters Miriam, Judy, and Dori William Rivkian, Luby Handman, and their families

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The staff of the Radiology Departments, Hadassah University Hospitals share the grief of their colleague and friend

Dr. Richard Lederman

on the death of his

FATHER

in Atlanta, GA, USA

IDF: PA not stopping Hamas

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Hamas still has an extensive terrorist infrastructure and plans to carry out a series of bombings, shootings, and kidnappings, but the IDF has no concrete information of a specific attack, a senior IDF intelligence officer said yesterday.

He told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that, while the Palestinian Authority is generally aware of Hamas's intentions, it is not making a serious effort to thwart attacks by Islamic fundamental-

ists. PA security only takes action when specific information is channeled to it, he said.

Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan, who appeared before the panel as a last-minute replacement for his boss, Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, added that the PA does not initiate actions against Hamas and only operates when it has to and based on pinpoint information.

Dayan said that the situation in Hebron is particularly sensitive and complicated. He noted that there have been six attacks in the city since last month's murder of

Rabbi Shlomo Ra'an and that the PA has not solved a single one. They can do more in Hebron than what they are doing now to foil attacks, Dayan said.

Regarding tomorrow's summit at the Wye Plantation, the officer said that there is great pessimism among the Palestinians over its chances for success. "They have doubts that agreements will be reached during the summit, because many issues have still not been resolved," he was quoted as saying.

Some committee members expressed anger at Mofaz's non-

appearance. Mofaz had asked that the meeting be delayed for a few hours and ultimately sent his deputy without advance notice. MK Ra'an Cohen (Labor) criticized Mofaz, saying he was treating the committee with contempt and shirking his responsibilities.

"I came specially to hear the chief of general staff," said Cohen. "We are all here to hear him and this is a blow to the committee's integrity."

Mofaz did not show up because he had been summoned to the cabinet for discussions prior to the US summit.



Fighter duel

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai (left) meets yesterday in Jerusalem with Lockheed Martin chairman Vance Coffman, here competing for a jet fighter contract estimated at \$2.5 billion with the Boeing company. (Brian Hendler)

Settlers warn PM against withdrawal

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will face fierce opposition from the Right if he agrees to any further withdrawal, settler leaders warned yesterday.

They also warned they would field candidates against Netanyahu. Names mentioned included Uzi Landau, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, and former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir. The two reportedly denied the reports, however.

Dozens of women and children as well as leaders of the Hebron Jewish community protested outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday, calling on Netanyahu to refrain from carrying out any further withdrawal.

Tonight, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, the Struggle Committee, the Land of Israel Front, and other right-wing groups will hold a mass demonstration outside Netanyahu's residence.

As council leaders embarked for Washington yesterday, front leader MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet) warned that if Netanyahu goes ahead with an agreement, even an initial one,

the front would do everything in its power to topple the government.

"Netanyahu is not the messiah," Kleiner said. "There were prime ministers from the national camp before him and there will be prime ministers from the national

camp after him."

He was ambivalent regarding Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon's role. "We may find out that this is the Sharon who helped [prime minister Menachem] Begin give away Sinai and dismantle Yamit," he said. "I'm afraid he was

brought in by Netanyahu to help him against his critics who favor withdrawal without genuine reciprocity."

Council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar also expressed concern about Sharon, saying council members fear his appointment

was a ploy by Netanyahu to assure himself victory in another vote of confidence.

Tayar, council chairman Pinhas Wallerstein, and director-general Aharon Domb said they will campaign to remind the US of its guarantees. Council members have already set up meetings with members of Congress and Jewish and Christian leaders to stress the importance of reciprocity and compliance.

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, Mofaz, Education Minister Yitzhak Levy and Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom (both National Religious Party) were among the government officials who mingled with demonstrators from the Hebron Jewish community outside the Prime Minister's Office. Spokesman Noam Aron said residents demand that Netanyahu abide by his guarantees prior to signing the Hebron Agreement and provide security to the community.

"The Hebron Agreement is an example of what will befall other communities if Netanyahu goes ahead with further withdrawal. There is no peace agreement there is only a terror agreement," he charged.

Land of Israel Front threatens to run candidate for PM

By SARAH HONIG

The Knesset's Land of Israel Front yesterday threatened to field its own prime ministerial candidate should Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu return from the US with a second redeployment deal.

If he "so much as initials an agreement, we will fight him and fight him hard," front chairman Michael Kleiner (Geshet) said last night. "We will do everything in our power to bring him down and call new elections as soon as possible. We will act as an opposition in every respect and not only in confidence votes. Thus we will certainly vote against the budget."

Should such efforts advance the elections, the front "will certainly not endorse Netanyahu again, but will find our own candidate who is true to the Land of Israel and who will be able to withstand pressure better. If we are faced with a choice between Netanyahu and [Labor Party chairman Ehud] Barak, we would be more than

hard put to discern any difference between the two, if Netanyahu signs another deal with [Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser] Arafat," he said.

Kleiner refused to name names, but among the MKs who comprise the front, Ze'ev (Benay) Begla (Likud) and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party) were mentioned. Neither was formally approached and neither gave his consent to running.

The first move toward choosing a right-wing alternative candidate would be to conduct a membership drive and then hold primaries among all those who register, Kleiner explained.

He rejected the argument that this would boost the Left's candidate for prime minister. "It's all in Netanyahu's hands. If he does not strike the bargain of capitulation, he will be in no danger. But if he gives in, he will be to blame if the Left gains power as a result."

Arafat: No simultaneous talks on interim and final-status issues

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Many issues remain to be resolved in his summit with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Bill Clinton, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, who was scheduled to leave last night for a stopover in London on his way to Washington, said yesterday.

AP reported that Arafat will also make a special stop in Minnesota on his way to the summit to visit Jordan's King Hussein, who is under going treatment for cancer. Arafat said he rejected Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's proposal to discuss simultaneously interim and final-status issues.

"The accord must be implemented as was agreed upon," he said at a joint news conference with Labor MK Shimon Peres. Peres stressed the need for Israelis and Palestinians to reach agreement.

But Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said last night that the PA must agree to Israel's demands on security cooperation before the government approves a redeployment in the West Bank.

Mordechai, speaking to

reporters hours after an Israeli was killed and another wounded in Moshav Ora, dismissed the suggestion that the government would commit itself to a 13.1 percent redeployment without firm security commitments from the Palestinians.

"One of the central things we will insist upon is security cooperation," he said.

Mordechai said the Oslo Accords left gaps regarding Palestinian commitments on security. He said the January 1997 Hebron Agreement filled in some of the gaps, but the PA must commit itself to do more.

After meeting with Lockheed Martin chairman Vance Coffman, he said Hamas was responsible for the terrorist attack near Ora and the stabbing murder of Michael Adato last week. He said the aim is to both kill Israelis and Jews and destroy any hope for an Israeli-PA accord.

"There is no doubt that Hamas is doing all these activities," he said. "It's a very unfortunate situation. We are fighting terror day and night. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to foil these isolated incidents."

The PA is sending a large delegation to the summit. In addition to Arafat, it includes his deputy Mahmoud Abbas, Palestinian Legislative Council Speaker Ahmed Qurei, PA ministers Saeb Erekat and Nabil Shaath, PA civil aviation head Fayez Zaiden, Gen. Abdul Razik Yehya, and Gaza security chiefs Mohammed Dahlan and Amin Hindi.

Shaath said the Netanyahu government is not agreeing to convert 14.2 percent of Area B, where Israel has security authority, to Area A, where PA has full rule. Today, 3% of the West Bank is under full Palestinian control.

Another dispute, PA officials said, is over Israel's insistence that a third redeployment will be no more than 2% of the West Bank. The PA is demanding a larger withdrawal.

Shaath also said Israel is evading a US proposal to stop construction in Jewish settlements. "The dispute stems from the fact that the Israeli side does not recognize and does not accept the US initiative, which in our opinion represents the minimum required for an interim agreement, and without which we cannot move on to final status."

MKs pessimistic about summit

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Making the rounds at the Knesset yesterday revealed a near unanimous pessimism over the chances for a successful summit.

Haim Ramon (Labor) said it would take "more than a miracle" for any agreements to be reached. "The gap is quite wide and things have to change dramatically at Wye Plantation to reach an agreement," Ramon said.

He noted that Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon's presence will restrict Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's flexibility in the negotiations.

He also claimed that Netanyahu is going to the summit without maps. "How can you reach an agreement, when the map is the heart of the agreement, without presenting the maps? In Oslo A and Oslo B reaching an agreement about the maps was a major obstacle," Ramon said.

Uzi Landau (Likud) said that Netanyahu shouldn't bother going under the present atmosphere of attacks.

"I don't see the use of going to Washington under these circumstances," he said.

Yossi Sarid (Meretz) said bridging the gaps is almost a "mission impossible. You have to have a great deal of willingness to bridge the gaps and there is a lack of willingness, at least on the Israeli side," he said.

Sarid also believes that Sharon will play a destructive role in the negotiations, but Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) said that Sharon is "the right person at the right time." The team of Netanyahu and Sharon is a team we can rely on.

Nonetheless, she said, "I'm not very optimistic about the results of the summit. I am optimistic about the results that concern the security of Israel, because if the prime minister doesn't get our basic demands from the Palestinian Authority, I don't see that we can proceed with the process."

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Dr. Roman Gouzman will lecture on "Computer Access for the Blind." Seating: Free.



Secularists arise!

Members of Jerusalem Awakening, a new secular voters movement, march in the capital yesterday to get out the vote for a 'democratic and pluralistic' city. Their placards read: 'I've got a vote and it will win!' (Kevin Unger)

TERROR

Continued from Page 1

"Mazon shouted, 'We've been here for half an hour, help us! Save us! I had to go back up to the main road to call an ambulance,' Penjel said.

By the time the ambulance arrived, Doron had died from his wounds. A fire department rescue team pulled his body from the water, and medics unsuccessfully attempted to revive him.

Mazon, who was shot in the chest and abdomen, was operated on for three hours at Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, and was listed in serious but stable condition.

Before he was taken to the hospital, Mazon told police at least two Arabs shot them, Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Judge Miriam

Mizrahi issued a ban on publicizing information relating to the description of the suspects, their weapons, or belongings they left behind.

Police questioned some 40 Arabs in the area following the attack. Outside Moshav Ora yesterday evening, Jews threw rocks at Arabs' cars, breaking four windshields. The drivers abandoned the cars and left the area, and police towed the cars away to prevent further damage.

Zvi Doron, the deceased's father, said he thought it was his son who was hurt as soon as he heard of the attack. "I suspected my son was one of the people there, because he generally goes there. He is a hozer bitshuva [newly religious]," Doron said, adding that he often feared for the safety of those who went to bathe in the spring. "I told them I was afraid. I hoped that God would protect them."

Doron and Mazon both served in the army before they became religious in the last few years and affiliated with the Bratslav Hassidim. They bathed often in the spring, which is considered especially holy because it was blessed by Rabbi Yitzhak Kadourie.

Following the attack, blood stained the concrete border of the small, rectangular, 1.5-meter-deep pool, which is fed by an underground spring. The neglected spring was restored about three years ago by Bratslav Hassidim, Doron among them. The spring, reached via a narrow, winding road some 15 minutes from the Moshav Ora junction, lies in a nature reserve in view of Bitar and Wulaja.

Residents of Ora and Aminudav who came to the spring complained of mild altercations at the site. "Arab children throw stones

at us," said Aharon Boimel, a 20-year-old Bratslaver who bathes there every day. He described Doron as a "very good person, always happy to help. He would come out and dance with us after he bathed. Itamar donated money to someone who wanted to go visit Unnan [in Ukraine where Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav is buried]."

Boimel said he would continue to bathe in the area and bring more people "in Doron's honor." Another Bratslaver, Sharon Kalimi, faulted the security services for the attack, claiming that the General Security Service and police were aware of the danger in the area. "This place is full of terrorists and police don't do a thing," he said. He said the area had been one of coexistence between Jewish and Arab neighbors "until now," adding: "There will be revenge here."

IDF intelligence officer:

PKK leader has left Syria for Russia

By ARRIEH O'SULLIVAN and news agencies

IDF intelligence has evidence that Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) leader Abdullah Ocalan has left Syria and is now in Russia, a senior intelligence officer said yesterday.

Ocalan's expulsion from Damascus has been one of the Turkish demands on Syria and, if true, his departure could help defuse the two-week old crisis.

The officer told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that it is uncertain if Ocalan was forced to leave or departed on his own accord. He also did not reveal where Ocalan is in Russia nor how he got there.

He said that Turkey's belligerent attitude is also sending a signal to other countries in the region, particularly Cyprus, that Ankara is determined to act against all those who harm its interests.

"Syria has viewed the Turkish

troop movements with much concern and sees the threat as an inherent effect of the defense alliance between Israel and Turkey," he was quoted as saying by a Knesset official who briefed reporters.

The officer said that during the entire episode, the Syrians refrained from reinforcing troops along the border and focused mainly on monitoring the situation. If interdiction took place it would most likely be restricted to Turkish strikes against PKK bases and not Syrian targets, he said.

Turkish Defense Minister Ismet Sezgin, meanwhile, said yesterday that Syria seems to have closed down the Kurdish rebel camps in Syria and in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. "Our impression is that Syria has ended activities in all terrorist camps on territories under its control. Of course this will be checked," he told reporters.

Sezgin also said that Iranian and Egyptian officials attempting to

mediate between Turkey and Syria have relayed that Ocalan is no longer in Syria.

Sources in Turkey said that there have been a number of promises by the Syrians to cease all PKK activity, but no proof of such moves has surfaced.

In Damascus, official Syrian sources repeated denials that Ocalan had been in Syria.

"Ocalan has not entered Syria for months. If he ever came here, he could have come with a false passport without the knowledge of the Syrian authorities," a senior Syrian official told Reuters.

Despite the reports, Turkish Chief of Staff Gen. Huseyin Kivrikoglu reiterated earlier warnings that, if the diplomatic process fails, Turkey is prepared to use force against Syria.

"In the event that diplomacy does not solve the problem, taking the necessary measures is unavoidable," he was quoted as saying.

US envoy meets on Russian missile aid to Iran

By STEVE RODAN

US presidential envoy Robert Galucci arrived yesterday to discuss with senior officials the transfer of Russian technology for Iran's Shihab-3 missile, which has a range of 1,300 kilometers.

Galucci heads a delegation of US experts who are to discuss with their Israeli counterparts Iran's ballistic missile program, particularly the extent of aid being given by Russian companies.

Galucci met with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's special adviser Uzi Arad.

A spokesman for Sharansky said several "interesting and new ideas" were brought up in the course of the meetings, but would not elaborate.

Sources close to the talks said the Galucci visit is

the latest in a series of periodic consultations on Iran's missile program. They said Galucci wants to be prepared with updated information before he travels to Moscow at the end of the month to discuss with his Russian counterparts efforts to stop the unauthorized transfer of technology to Tehran.

"I can't say there's anything special about this visit," one source said.

Israeli and US intelligence sources agree that Iran could complete development of the Shihab-3 by mid-1999. They said Tehran has already started on the Shihab-4, with a range of more than 2,000 kilometers and believed to be based on the Russian SS-4 missile.

In July, Iran launched a Shihab-3 missile in what both Israeli and US experts determined was a successful test. Since then, Tehran has threatened to use the missile against Israel.

Danna Harman contributed to this report.

DEAL

Continued from Page 1

"We are in a far better position to overcome those hurdles and broaden the areas of agreement as a result of the work that's been done in recent days and weeks, but whether we will be able to do so remains an open question."

Netanyahu is scheduled to leave tonight for the three-way summit at Wye Plantation. Prior to leaving, Netanyahu - accompanied by Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon - is planning to make a quick trip to Jordan this morning. The two will meet with Crown Prince Hassan and update him on the preparations for the summit. Sharon is also planning to visit King Hussein at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota before the start of the summit.

Netanyahu goes with a series of principles, from which so he promised the cabinet yesterday - he will not retreat.

"These are both our starting points and our end points," said a top official in the Prime Minister's Office, noting that as far as the government is concerned, most of Israel's negotiating has already been done.

"What is holding up the deal is a yes from the Palestinian side," cabinet secretary Dan Naveh said. "We have done our part."

Netanyahu promised the cabinet he would stand firm on all questions relating to the fight against terrorism, and laid out nine points detailing the specific issues on which compromise is out of the question. The cabinet, in response - and despite major reservations on the part of several ministers - decided to trust Netanyahu's word, and refrained from formally setting out parameters for the talks.

"What Netanyahu presented were enough concessions, and we will not stand for any more," said Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom. "We will not accept any amount of flexibility on any one of the points Netanyahu presented to us."

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FIRES

Continued from Page 1

All residents were instructed to evacuate as flames, leaping some 30 meters into the air, spread from tree to tree.

At one stage it appeared that the efforts of the firefighters on the ground and the IAF helicopters and Kin-Nir light planes spraying the fires had succeeded. A sudden shift in the wind, however, changed the course of the fire and the day.

Residents managed to remove Torah scrolls and other items from the moshav's synagogue, which in the end was spared.

Residents were evacuated to Neveh Yam and Nahsholim, where the Hof Hacarmel Regional Council set up emergency evacuation headquarters. They were joined by scores of residents from the nearby artists village of Ein Hod

who were also forced to leave their homes for a second straight day.

Some had returned during the night and the early hours of the morning to assess the damage from Monday's fire.

Some families stayed behind to try and fight the flames and save their homes. More than a dozen houses were gutted and several others damaged during the blazes of the two days.

Opposite Ein Hod, the Yemin Orde Youth Village, which would normally have been packed with hundreds of teenagers and staff, remained empty. Police and fire service officials issued instructions for nobody to return.

The battle to keep the fires away from residential areas continued throughout the day, with the wind playing a cat-and-mouse game with firefighters, who never knew where the next front would open up.

A huge acrid pall of smoke hung

over parts of the Carmel mountains throughout the day, spreading northwards across Haifa Bay like a layer of smog.

Through the haze, IAF helicopters and the light planes continued to fly, picking up water from the sea and from airstrips, and dumping their loads on the orange balls below.

Initial reports said yesterday's fire was caused by a blaze in a car. Other reports said it may have been started by negligence or even arson.

Fire officials said they are probing all possibilities, although there is no evidence of arson. The biggest problem was the tinder dry vegetation, temperatures over 40

degrees, and strong easterly winds.

Fire Service chief Moshe Vardi stressed that these conditions were the main factor in the spread of the fires on the Carmel.

More than 500 residents of Nir Etzion, Ein Hod, and the nearby Arab village of Ein Hud were evacuated from their homes to the emergency headquarters along the coast.

Among the evacuees was puzzle expert Dan Hamitzer. He said the scenes of devastation at Ein Hod, in one of the most beautiful spots in the country, were heart-rending.

The Jerusalem pine, which grows relatively quickly and is suited to the topography and terrain of the Carmel, was one of the main rea-

sons for the spread of the fire. The tree is highly flammable.

Solita experts called for the establishment of a national aerial fire-fighting service, with aircraft capable of dumping tons of water onto brush and forest fires. Others urged the establishment of an army reserve fire-fighting unit to back up the Fire Service.

As a precaution, the IDF evacuated all the prisoners from Military Prison 6, which is located near the fires. There did not appear to be any immediate danger to the 500 prisoners and staff, but the army said the move was a precaution.

Arrieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

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If Shimon Peres had provided the territorial continuity required for the establishment of a Palestinian state - we would have TOPPLED him.

If Shimon Peres had relinquished full reciprocity with the Palestinian Authority - we would have TOPPLED him.

If Shimon Peres had continued to negotiate with Arafat with terrorism rampant in Hebron - we would have TOPPLED him.

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Ein Hud narrowly escapes the flames

By DAVID RUDGE

Mohammed Abu Hija sat on the roof of his home in Ein Hud yesterday afternoon surveying the scene of devastation surrounding the Arab hamlet as a result of one of the biggest fires in the country's history.

He was relatively relaxed after the near-panic that had gripped him and other residents in the morning, when they saw walls of flames rapidly approaching the isolated community in the heart of Mt. Carmel from several directions.

"The flames were leaping scores of meters into the air and the sky was so thick with smoke it even blocked out the sun," said Abu Hija, still coughing slightly from the effects of smoke-inhalation.

"There were about 50 people, including women and children, still left in the village out of the more than 200 who live here. The rest, including my wife Sophia and our seven children, went the previous day when the fire first threatened our homes."

Some of the residents had returned to the hamlet on Monday night and some very early yesterday after it appeared that the blaze that ravaged vast tracts of Mt. Carmel, including the nearby communities of Ein Hod and Moshav Nir Etzion, had been brought under control.

They believed that the worst was over, scarcely imagining that what was in store was almost a repeat of what they and their neighbors had undergone the previous day.

Around 8.15 a.m., the fire broke out anew.

Whipped by hot easterly winds with gusts of 50 kilometers per hour, it quickly swept towards Ein Hud.

The sight of the encroaching flames was enough to frighten even the most stout-hearted, including Abu Hija, who is chairman of the Group of 40, an organization pressing for recognition of dozens of Arab settlements throughout the country.

Ein Hud itself was only recently accorded official recognition. "I had been sitting on the roof then but I had to come down because the smoke was surrounding us," he said.

"The residents who were here were in a state of panic. There is only one access road to the village, via Nir Etzion, and it was blocked because of the fire. We had no way out, nowhere to turn."

"We didn't know what to do and all the people who had congregated in front of my house were shouting at one another and the children were crying. We were suffocating from the smoke and there was nobody but us in the area," said Abu Hija.

45, the leader of the village.

Fire Brigade commanders and security officials from their forward command post in nearby Nir Etzion spotted the flames

rapidly approaching Ein Hud and orders were issued to immediately evacuate the village.

Police were sent in jeeps to assist in the evacuation and teams of firemen were dispatched to fight the blaze from the ground, while light planes sprayed the flames from above.

Some of the residents started walking across the burned terrain separating the settlement from Nir Etzion.

The direct route is less than 500 meters. The unpaved access road, however, consists of several kilometers of twists and bumps before it reaches the village.

Ein Hud itself was established by former residents of what is today the artists village of Ein Hod.

They were not allowed to return to their homes after the War of Independence and settled instead on land nearby where they used to graze their sheep.

For years, Ein Hud, which today has around 40 homes, was considered an illegal settlement. Its receipt of official recognition has not yet been translated into water and sewerage networks, telephones and paved access roads.

As the residents left the village, Abu Hija began, in his own words, to calm down, although he himself did not join the exodus.

"There had been a feeling of helplessness as the flames came towards us. The smoke was everywhere and the heat was overpowering," he said.

"Fifteen of us stayed behind to fight the fire and protect our homes but, in the end, the blaze burned itself out or the wind moved it away from us and our homes were saved."

"The only damage was to the windows of a house near to mine."

Even the corpse of trees that was planted by the JNF back in 1964 survived.

"We were lucky, although some of the residents said that maybe God was with us."

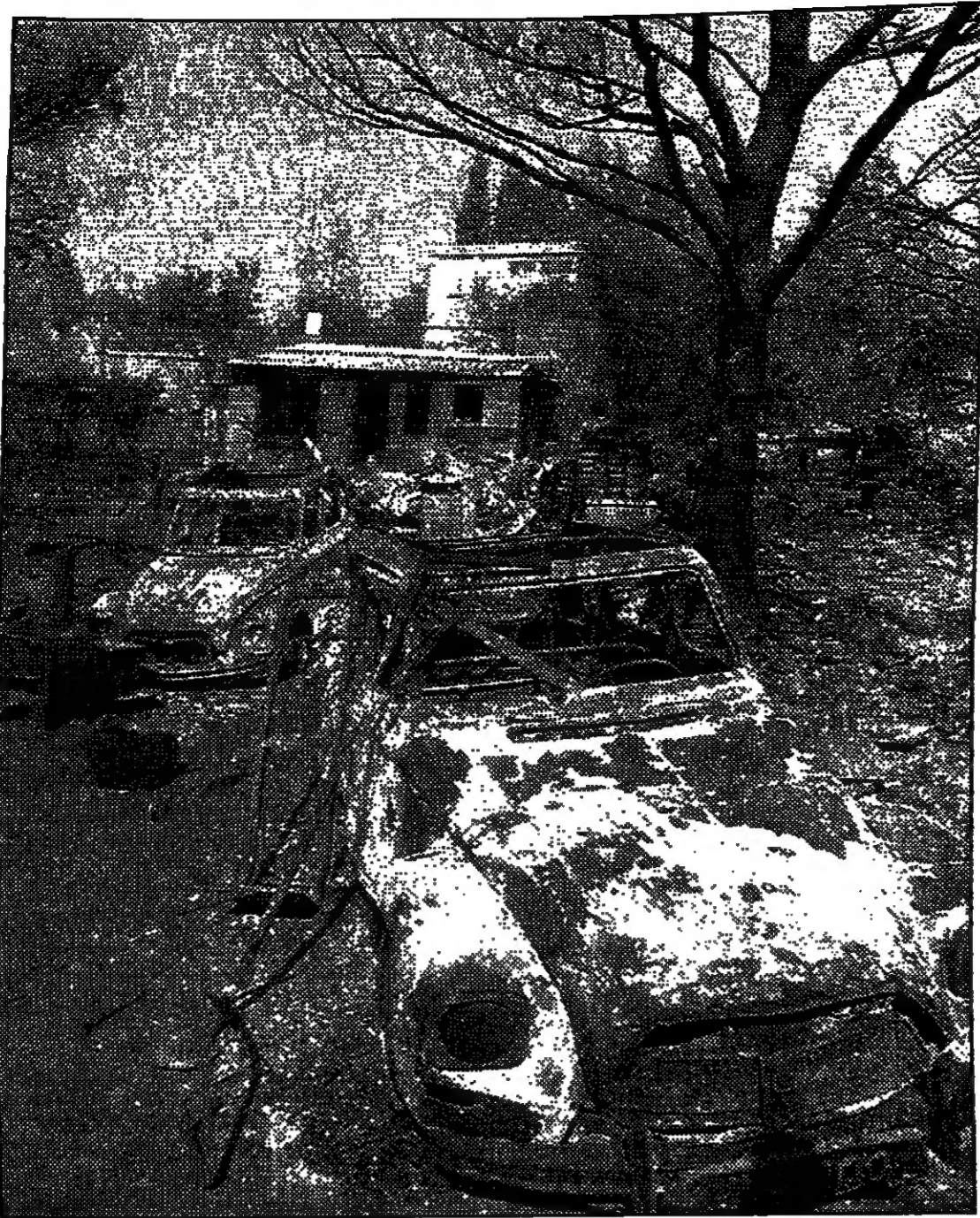
Residents of nearby Moshav Nir Etzion, which for years helped supply drinking water to Ein Hud, and the residents of Ein Hod itself, were not so fortunate as their Arab neighbors.

The fire changed course, swept by the wind and within a short space of time Nir Etzion and later Ein Hod were under threat. This time there was little that the firefighters or IAF helicopters could do to combat the fierce flames.

In Ein Hod, the Ratner family took matters into their own hands, forming a bucket line from a nearby swimming pool. They succeeded in keeping the flames at bay.

Other homes in the already devastated village, however, went up in flames.

As night fell, the orange glow of the flames continued to dominate the sky over Mt. Carmel.



Fires raged through Ein Hod yesterday for the second straight day after hot winds rekindled embers, resulting in widespread damage. More than 500 residents of nearby Moshav Nir Etzion and the Arab village of Ein Hud were also evacuated.

Fire chief: We're operating at 25% of required level

By DAVID RUDGE
and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The Fire and Rescue Service is operating at a quarter of the level needed, particularly in comparison with Western countries, Moshe Vardi, its commander, maintained yesterday.

He stressed that equipment, including initial response vehicles and fire engines, is in many cases outdated and fewer in number than required.

Furthermore, Vardi noted that the service is understaffed and that 15 percent of firemen are over 55 and that it is no secret they are less active than younger firemen.

He said that some NIS 80 million is needed to bring the service up to the standards required to deal with emergencies.

"We have about 80 initial response vehicles, which date back to 1970-74. Yesterday, while I was on duty in difficult terrain, the firemen there said this would be the last fire they will fight in such vehicles," he said. "They

said that it wasn't just the smoke that got into their lungs, but also the exhaust fumes which came into their vehicle cabs."

"Such vehicles, they said, couldn't be used any more. I just hope that this matter, which we have submitted in the framework of the 1999 budget, will also be solved by the government."

Former chief Uri Manos said the public has cause for concern because the fire service does not have appropriate means to fight fires in multistory buildings, a big industrial complex, or in large tracts of open land.

Meanwhile, Micha Goldman (Labor), chairman of the Knesset Interior Committee, called on Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to resign if he cannot provide immediate assistance to the firefighters.

He demanded that Neeman allocate the required funds to acquire new fire-fighting equipment and personnel, stating it is impossible to fight fires adequately with the old equipment.

"The fire-fighting system is

collapsing and cannot cope with the many fires, while the Treasury regards it as a low priority and doesn't give it the necessary budget to function properly. If Neeman, who bears ministerial responsibility, cannot provide immediate answers, he must resign," Goldman said.

"I don't want to sound pessimistic, but if it continues one more day, some of the firefighters won't be able to go on for a third night with no rest. More firefighters must be prepared from IDF reserve units and from courses training firefighters. There is nothing more painful than seeing cows trying to escape a fire and not being able to."

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said all those which take part in fire fighting — the police, army, and fire service — must undergo a reorganization. Kahalani, who visited the Nir Etzion fire site, said the cabinet discussed the issue and decided to discuss the first conclusions of the investigation of the fires next week.

Arab MKs call arson charges racist

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Arab leaders yesterday protested implications by President Ezer Weizman and Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi that Arabs had caused the fires, calling them racist incitement and blood libel.

"The fires were also a result of nationalism, as well as negligence. I've been saying for a long time we have to find the way to sit down with Israel's Arab population to find the way to live together," Weizman said yesterday. "I've been saying this for a long time... I'm holding a dialogue with the prime minister about this now."

"I don't want to tell people what to do, but I believe that the subject of Israel's Arab citizens, first and foremost the Beduin in the Negev, is one that has to receive much, much more thorough attention... What happened in Umm el-Fahm also didn't help," he said.

Ze'evi said whoever burns trees doesn't like this country and should have no part in it. He added that the Arabs' claim to ownership of the country is nothing but a joke.

MK Hashem Mahameed (Hadash) rejected any connection between the fires and the Arab population, whose villages and towns also burned, and said the statements attributing the fires to Arabs bordered on blood libel. He expressed astonishment at Weizman's statements, noting he

is supposed to be the president of all Israel's citizens.

"I cannot understand how they can hold a field court-martial and condemn the entire Arab population. In my opinion, burning a tree or any animal in a forest is tantamount to murder and whoever does it should be punished accordingly."

Mahameed also rejected any connection between the fires and the events in Umm el-Fahm, "where the IDF tried to take over private lands, turn them into training areas, and prevent the owners from reaching their crops."

Jafar Farah, director of the Mosawa Center for equal rights for Israeli Arabs, charged Weizman and Ze'evi with inciting against the Arab public.

"When the big fire on the Carmel erupted nine years ago, politicians also accused Arabs, but no evidence of this was ever found," Farah said. "These accusations are an attempt to cover up the authorities' negligence and shortcomings in fire fighting. The state comptroller issued a harsh report on the fire-fighting facilities, but the government ignored it and now they're trying to incite against the Arab public."

MK Avraham Poraz (Shinui) urged the defense and interior ministers to set up an IDF reserve unit specializing in firefighting.

Batsheva Tsour contributed to this report.

Palestinian firemen fight blaze at settlement

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Palestinian firefighters worked alongside their Israeli counterparts and succeeded in extinguishing a fire that broke out in the settlement Ginot Shomron on Monday night.

Udi Leibman, head of the Karmel Shomron regional council said it was not the first time that the Palestinians offered their assistance. Both sides, he said, often assist each other in dealing with road accidents. According to initial investigations carried out by police and the fire brigade, the fire was not caused

by arson, said Lieberman. Close to 8:30 p.m., the fire broke out near the community's houses, said Lieberman. The residents, together with Palestinian and Israeli fire and rescue squads, fought the fire for some five hours before it was put out.

The Palestinians, he said, sent fire brigade teams from Kalkilya and Nabliu to help extinguish the flames. Luckily, said Lieberman, none of the houses were damaged and no one was injured. The fire's only casualty was a 120 dunam olive grove that belonged to the neighboring villagers.

Fires rage in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Hundreds of firefighters, soldiers, and civilians yesterday battled fires that have already destroyed 1.75 million square meters of pine forest and olive and citrus groves.

The fire brigade and civil defense forces have canceled all vacations to mobilize more people to fight the fires.

The government also sent sol-

diers to battle the blazes and UN peacekeepers have used helicopters to drop water on the fires.

The blazes began this weekend in the wooded hills of Batroun in northern Lebanon. They spread quickly to areas that were unusually dry due to the recent heat wave.

Some 150 fires have been reported in areas ranging from the outskirts of Tripoli to villages south of Tyre.

State Comptroller's Report blasts Fire Service

BACKGROUND

By LISA COLLINS

According to the 1998 State Comptroller's Report, only two of the 25 Fire and Rescue Service stations are fully manned. Some fire stations have just two firefighters on duty and several have only one.

Similarly, the number of vehicles does not meet the designated standards and in many stations — particularly small and medium-sized ones — the vehicles are old and frequently down for repairs.

The dramatic increase in the number of high-rise buildings, which have particular fire hazards, has not been fully addressed by the service.

Although proposals have been submitted, they have not yet become regulations.

There has been an improve-

ment, however, in the handling of forest fires, although more landing pads are required to enable planes and helicopters to refill with water on-site instead of wasting time by returning to their bases.

The comptroller also criticized the firefighters' training school, which held only "very limited training activities" between 1995 and 1996 and did not run many of the planned training programs in 1997, particularly with regard to handling hazardous materials.

She said the school had not

developed a comprehensive, professional approach to firefighting and prevention, and in some cases the information being taught is outdated.

After the forest fire that ravaged the Jerusalem Corridor on July 2, 1995, the government set up a commission of inquiry to investigate the fire department's poor response time and lack of proper equipment.

Many of the recommendations were not implemented, Mondy Itzhaki, spokesman for the Fire and Rescue Service Commissioner, said earlier this year.

The commission, headed by Maj.-Gen. (res.) Amos Lapidot, found that fire-fighting forces were "very far from satisfactory" and were "not equipped to handle large and extensive fires."

Refugee for a night

By ORA BRAFMAN

Haifa, Denya neighborhood, Sunday 2.45 a.m.: I reach in the dark for the phone that rings like crazy. The lady who lives next to me says words that don't make much sense: something about fire, police, immediate danger. "You must leave," she says.

Simultaneously, I hear muffled announcements from several loudspeakers calling on inhabitants to evacuate their houses. This turns my brain in a split second from drowsiness to full alert mode.

I run upstairs to wake up my daughter, and notice from the balcony's window a sick-looking red sky.

Banal as it may sound, I grab a few things that at that moment seem important, and while I do, a voice in the back of my mind reminds me that people in similar situations always run for the family albums. It crosses my mind, but I don't bother.

Haifa, Romema neighborhood, 3.15 a.m.: My

luck. The first people I meet at the evacuation center in Romema are my insurance man and his wife, my neighbors, now fellow refugees. They look concerned, perhaps a touch reproachful since recently I renewed the house insurance without covering its contents. We don't speak of it, of course.

Need I mention my anxieties when the 6 o'clock news mentions my street when reporting the damages? Sitting on the stairs of the sports center in Romema, I see a girl come in holding a cage with a canary and smile. I wait for dawn and wonder if I still have a home to go back to. I make myself count my blessings.

Noon: The police allow people to go back. The house is unharmed, like a calm island of sanity in the middle of a disaster area. People call to ask how I am. Some of them had never called before. I feel like I need to apologize for my good fortune, since they are a bit disappointed.

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Bodyguard assigned to Ran Cohen

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon yesterday appointed a bodyguard from the ranks of the Knesset guard for Meretz MK Ran Cohen, following repeated threats on his life from extremist right-wing groups and after Cohen's car was torched last week outside his Mevasseret Zion home.

Cohen had recently spearheaded legislation to move mass-murderer Baruch Goldstein's memorial from Kiryat Arba, and right-wing extremists have threatened to harm anyone who interfered with the memorial.

Meretz sources yesterday expressed anger at the government's failure to provide protection for parliamentarians who are threatened by extremists. They pointed out that Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who lives across the road from Cohen, is guarded 24 hours a day by the General

Security Service. No such protection was given Cohen, despite the ongoing threats to himself and his family.

Meretz sources said Tichon, who has been threatened himself, pressured Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to appoint a committee headed by former Mossad chief Nahum Admoni on the issue.

Admoni's committee presented Netanyahu with its recommendations several weeks ago, but the prime minister shelved the report and refrained from making any decision, Meretz sources said.

"And this is the same prime minister who is demanding that PA leader Yasser Arafat lays hands on Hamas terrorists. Thus a lawmaker who legislated a law is being threatened by Jewish fundamentalists and his car is torched, while the government not only fails to protect him, but also does nothing to lay hands on the culprits," a Meretz source said.

Generali prize withheld as compromise fails

A last-ditch effort by the Prime Minister's Office yesterday failed to reach a compromise with Italian insurance giant Generali over the publication of World War II-era policies, the office announced.

As a result, Israel will withdraw an award it planned to present to Assicurazioni Generali at the Prime Minister's Jubilee Business Summit tonight in Jerusalem, said Bobby Brown, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's adviser on Diaspora affairs.

The company's chairman, Antoine Bernheim, was among dozens of international business leaders named to receive the "Jubilee Award" for contributing to the Israeli economy. Generali spent \$320 million in 1997 to acquire a majority position in the local Migdal insurance company.

"We are quite surprised and disappointed," said I.A. Ben-Porath, a lawyer for Generali in Israel who was involved in the negotiations.

Generali, which reneged recently on an agreement to pay \$100 million to Holocaust-era policy holders and their heirs, has come under increased criticism for not making public information on wartime policies.

Brown said Generali had offered to provide some names, but not

detailed information of policy holders, including maiden names, beneficiaries, and occupations, which would make it easier for heirs to identify.

"We didn't feel that was a commitment we could live with," Brown said.

Earlier this year, Generali provided information on war-era policies to Yad Vashem, but only on condition that the information be used for the remembrance authority's research and not for publication. Yad Vashem said the information was sold life insurance policies to over 100,000 Jews on the eve of the Nazi Holocaust.

Ben-Porath said Generali has already committed to releasing policy information to an international commission that will investigate Holocaust insurance claims. That commission is to meet for the first time on October 21 in New York.

But Brown said there was no guarantee that the commission would require Generali to make a full disclosure of the details. He said he would like to see the information on Generali's 337,000 war-time policies published in newspapers and the Internet. (AP)

Court voids Housing Ministry appointment

By RATSHEVA TSUR and Irit

The High Court of Justice yesterday cancelled the appointment of Shimon Einstein as director of the authority for rural building in the Housing Ministry.

A seven-member bench, headed by President Aharon Barak, ruled that the appointment was not in keeping with civil service regulations.

The authority deals with building in Judea and Samaria and along the Green Line.

Einstein served formerly as adviser on settlements to Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush. In August 1996, he was appointed acting director of the authority even though he was unqualified. The appointment was opposed by Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander.

In an attempt to help Einstein, Porush requested that the requirements for the job be changed so that a public tender not be necessary.

The government approved the change, which would have been valid for as long as the current government remains in power. In September 1997, Einstein got the appointment.

However, the Histadrut and the Organization of Academics in the Social Sciences petitioned the High Court, claiming that the appointment contravened the Civil Service Law, and the court ruled that the government could not turn this position into one where it is possible to make a political appointment.

The ministry was given six months to arrange a public tender and Einstein was ordered to relinquish the post when that period is over. The justices also called on the government to take greater care in future instances of this kind.

Netanya parents close schools over safety

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Schools in Netanya, except for special education facilities, were closed by the local Parents' Association yesterday to protest serious safety problems that have not yet been resolved. The parents also say that the city has failed to provide other important services, including school nurses and psychologists.

The strike is scheduled to continue today, after a meeting last night between association representatives and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy ended in failure, Israel Radio reported.

The shutdown was about 90 percent effective in elementary and secondary schools and about 75 percent-80 percent effective in kindergartens, Avi Metzger, the head of the Parents' Association, said.

Outlining the safety problems, Metzger explained that in the city's Shapira State Religious High School, the gym was closed by engineers after "serious problems" were found with the ceiling. "We didn't want another second Beersheba incident," he said, referring to the collapse of a school gym roof last summer that killed two pupils.

At the city's Bialik Elementary School, work on repairing a third-floor ceiling that has begun crumbling has only just begun, Metzger said. At the Tachkemoni Elementary School, the situation is so bad "that the best that can be said is that they should come knock it down and start all over again," Metzger said, with problems including rotting window frames and unacceptable bathrooms, a problem he added affects

many of the city schools. "At the David Elementary School, there are four stalls available for some 300 children, because the rest aren't working and have been closed down," he said.

Metzger noted that the parents have been asking to have the problems fixed since May, "but we're dealing with a municipality which is essentially dead, and there's no one with whom to speak."

He said municipal officials claim "they're doing their best," and accused the municipality of using money earmarked for education to pay salaries, including NIS 2 million received from the Education Ministry specifically for renovations.

While some parents were angry about the shutdown, "they realize it's for their children's benefit," Metzger claimed.

Mendy Weiss, who holds the education portfolio on the City Council, denied Metzger's charges regarding salaries, and said the city is doing "the best it can." He called Metzger's charges "exaggerated," and said the ceilings mentioned are of the type "that if they collapse, while it wouldn't be so nice, wouldn't be so terrible."

"We made repairs, and at other places the parents know these are things that can't be completed so quickly. We're working on them," he said.

Weiss said the parents had demanded an urgent meeting with Levy, which was arranged for last night. While Weiss said the parents had agreed to cancel the strike in exchange, Metzger said that depended on what Levy had to say.



Moderate Orthodox alternative

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi Doron (seated) greets his Ashkenazi counterpart, Rabbi Yisrael Lau, as Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg makes a point at yesterday's opening of the Lavi Conference at Kibbutz Ramat Rachel. The parley, which moves today to Kibbutz Lavi in the Galilee, aims to foster a modern Orthodox alternative to the country's religious leadership. (Brian Hendler)

Wiesenthal: Restoring Jewish property remains an issue

By ELDAD BECK

VIENNA - Not only Switzerland, Germany, Austria, France, and Italy but also small countries in Eastern Europe, such as Croatia, face the issue of restoring Jewish property confiscated during World War II, according to Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal.

"People in all the countries that were occupied by the Germans got [confiscated] Jewish property. In Eastern Europe and in Western Europe. The whole matter is a big shame for the non-Jews," said Wiesenthal, 89, in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*.

Wiesenthal has recently persuaded the European Parliament to investigate a law passed by Croatia which would stop short of recognizing a responsibility to restore all

confiscated Jewish property.

According to this law, any Jewish property taken by members of the Croatian pro-Nazi militia, the Ustasha, and then nationalized by the communist authorities, would be given back to those who stayed in Croatia.

Wiesenthal rejects arguments that it is too late to bring up restitution claims more than 50 years after the end of the war.

He said that "the Jewish people had not only lost 6 million people, it lost 6 million witnesses, and the Nazis killed 95 percent of the elite of European Jewry."

Wiesenthal is not very keen, because of his advanced age, to accept a proposal by Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima to join the official Austrian commission that is to investigate the issue of confiscated Jewish property in

Austria.

The commission was created by the Austrian government last week, and is expected to start work in three months.

Wiesenthal believes that Austria has not done enough to compensate Holocaust victims. He also maintains that no Austrian, or German company will compensate wartime slave laborers unless it is required to do so by law.

He also believes that it is very difficult to estimate the value of Jewish property confiscated during the war.

"Every estimation is a speculation, since we can only talk about the value of property 60 years ago. This concerns not only property, but also money in bank accounts and shares in companies that were taken over by governments [after the war]," he said.

NEWS

in brief

Worker killed in airport accident

A worker for Taleim, a subcontractor of Solel Boneh's on the Ben-Gurion 2000 project, was killed in an accident during infrastructure work at the airport yesterday. The accident occurred as large concrete pipes were being broken up. The worker was a resident of east Jerusalem. Irit

Shas leader seeks Pollard release

Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the spiritual leader of Shas, has written a letter to President Bill Clinton asking him to pardon Jonathan Pollard. Irit

Several weeks ago, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai visited Pollard, and reported to Yosef that he was depressed. Yosef then decided to personally appeal to Clinton for his release. Irit

Exhibit on survivors who made aliya opens

As part of the jubilee of Israeli independence, a year-long exhibit opened at Yad Vashem yesterday paying tribute to Holocaust survivors who made aliya. The project is called "Under the Blazing Lights: The First Decade in Israel for Holocaust Survivors." It describes the contribution and absorption of survivors, especially during the War of Independence, according to Yad Vashem spokeswoman Iris Rosenberg. Jerusalem Post Staff

Arab book week starts today

Arab book week will be opened today at 4 p.m. by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert in the central library in east Jerusalem. It will continue through next Tuesday. Some 450,000 books - 8,000 titles - from different Arab countries will be offered at the fair, run by the municipality's cultural department.

During the week, theater groups, bands, and dance troupes will perform at the festival, which will be opened from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Amy Klein

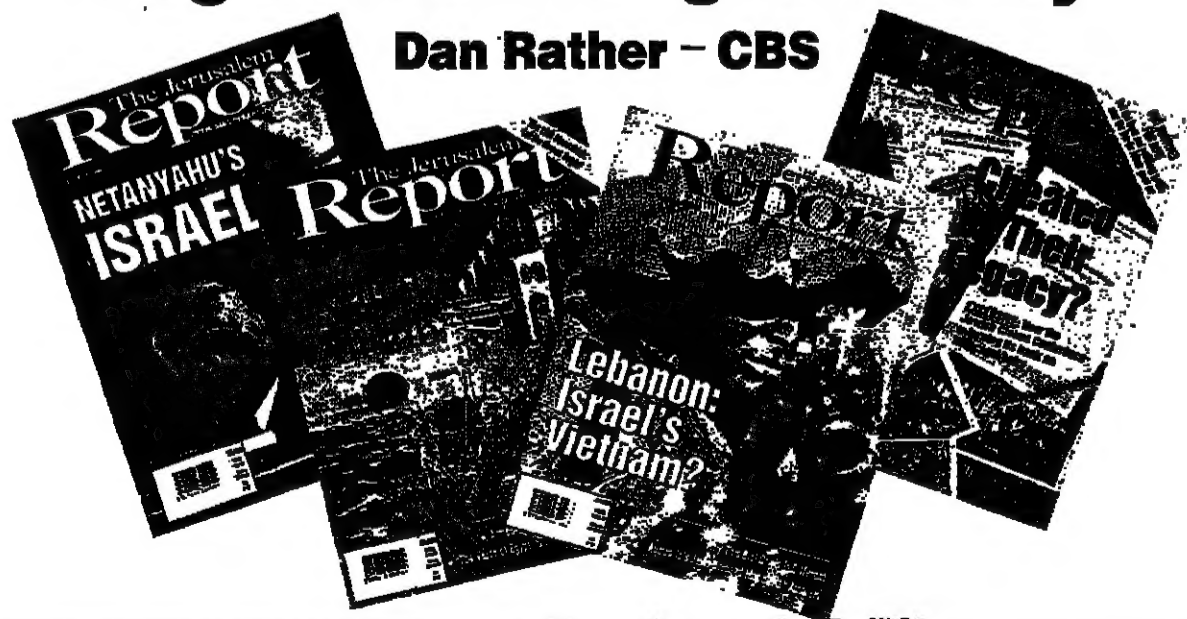
Woman killed in traffic accident

A woman was killed and a man seriously injured in a traffic accident when the van in which they were traveling overturned on the Eilat-Uvda road yesterday. Irit

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Unbridled greatness

It seems that if NATO went to war with Slobodan Milosevic over Kosovo, the action would be deadly and serious. Six B-52 bombers are pre-positioned in England armed with cruise missiles. Eleven of NATO's 16 states have been running serious exercises (call it rehearsal) since October 1. At last count, 5,000 troops, 200 warplanes and 60 ships, with more cruise missiles, were playing the war games.

Orders were released to the military command Monday, yet no one believed Milosevic would not back down under the ruthless negotiating tactics of US envoy Richard Holbrooke and the muzzle of NATO's big gun. At the last minute it seems he has agreed to the demands of the UN Security Council and NATO to halt his foul deeds in Kosovo. Everyone also believed Saddam would back down in Kuwait. Is Milosevic a shrewd dictator than the Iraqi? He probably is, at least in balancing immediate gain against loss, but he is just as relentless in bouncing back to his old ways.

Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

regarded as part of Milosevic's Greater Serbia that had to be "cleansed" of inferior non-Serbian types. The international community sluggishly woke up to the horrifying fact that Serbian concentration camps were beginning to look an awful lot like Nazi ones.

When the antics of Milosevic's murderous troops became too much even for appeasers and apologists to stomach, NATO wiped out the Bosnian Serb military machine and invited Milosevic to Dayton, Ohio, to discuss cutting Greater Serbia down to size. So far we have made no mention of a place called Kosovo. What happened? In this province, the people think Yugoslavia consists of three states, Serbia, Montenegro

— and Kosovo. The province is an inverted triangle in the south of Serbia, with Albania on one side and Macedonia on the other. The population is more than 90 percent Albanian, mostly secular or nominal Muslims.

While Milosevic was busy persuading Bosnians of the greatness of being murdered by Serbs, he had little time for the growing resentment at home in Kosovo. This resentment he personally seeded in 1989 by scrapping Kosovo's traditional autonomy. Kosovans increasingly demanded independence instead.

Precedent rules

Stymied in Croatia and Bosnia, Milosevic finally turned Serbian greatness loose on Kosovo this year. Having put years of hand-wringing over Bosnia behind it, the West began wringing its hands over Kosovo.

The trouble here is that the West does not approve of independence for Kosovo. There already are too many new and struggling little states in the world and the ugly word "precedent" makes politicians shudder.

Why did the West not intervene in Chechnya's brutal little war? The real reason is that Russia is too big and powerful of course — the excuse was "precedent." If Chechnya could secede, why not California, the Basques, Normandy, Yorkshire? Or Kosovo.

Faced with public horror over Serb atrocities in Kosovo, precedent has been quietly shelved for the moment and NATO's masters have chosen to regard Kosovo like Kuwait — a tiny, blameless little land terrorized by a big, nasty dictator. If this had been Milosevic's first military action, he undoubtedly would have gotten away with it as an internal matter. But the world is just a little sick of Milosevic and of Serbian security forces with all the military discipline of a pack of jackals. The phrase "Serb forces" has acquired the same unsavory association as Falangist, Khmer Rouge and death squad.

The greater good of Europe justifies the final removal of that delusion of "greater-ness" from the name of Serbia and the hands of such "security forces." Maybe Milosevic has cunningly gone to ground for the moment, but NATO would be wise to keep practicing.

Greater me

Under Milosevic, the Serbs have acquired a somewhat inflated idea of their own importance in God's Balkan universe. We have heard nothing of plans for a Greater Slovenia, yet Milosevic brazenly rides under the banner of Greater Serbia. We all know that appending "greater" to the name of ultra-nationalist little countries spells nothing but trouble for their not-so-great neighbors. Hence parts of Croatia and all of Bosnia were given the dubious honor of being

The pope: A retrospective

For 20 years, traditionalist John Paul II has ruled the Catholic Church with an iron fist — all the while preaching a message of freedom and democracy

By STEVE PAGANI

VATICAN CITY — Hailed by traditionalists as a God-send for Roman Catholicism, Pope John Paul marks his 20 years at the head of a Church facing challenges from reformists warning change is crucial as the third millennium beckons.

When the little known archbishop of Krakow strode onto the world stage on October 16, 1978, few believers had any idea how momentous his papacy would be to the 20th century.

Few could predict that the first non-Italian pope in nearly 500 years would throw off many of the stiff trappings of the papacy to travel the world, embrace the old and dying, kiss babies and become, unwittingly perhaps, a media superstar.

Some who already knew the man, who suffered under Nazi occupation and endured years of Communist rule in his homeland, had no doubt that Karol Wojtyla would stamp his authority on a Catholic Church some conservatives feared was losing its way.

Many Catholics, especially in the developed world, take issue with the pope's proclamations on issues such as sex and the right to abortion or his unbending opposition to married priests or women clergy.

Few can fault him, however, for his fight for human rights.

Since his first foreign trip to Mexico in 1979 and in his subsequent 83 forays outside Italy, the pope has preached a message aimed not just at the faithful, but often at dictators oppressing their people or to Western leaders heading societies he considered were living in a moral vacuum.

"I speak in the name of those who have no voice," he said on a trip to Africa in 1980. For the pope "those with no voice" could mean the dissident roving in jail or the unborn child.

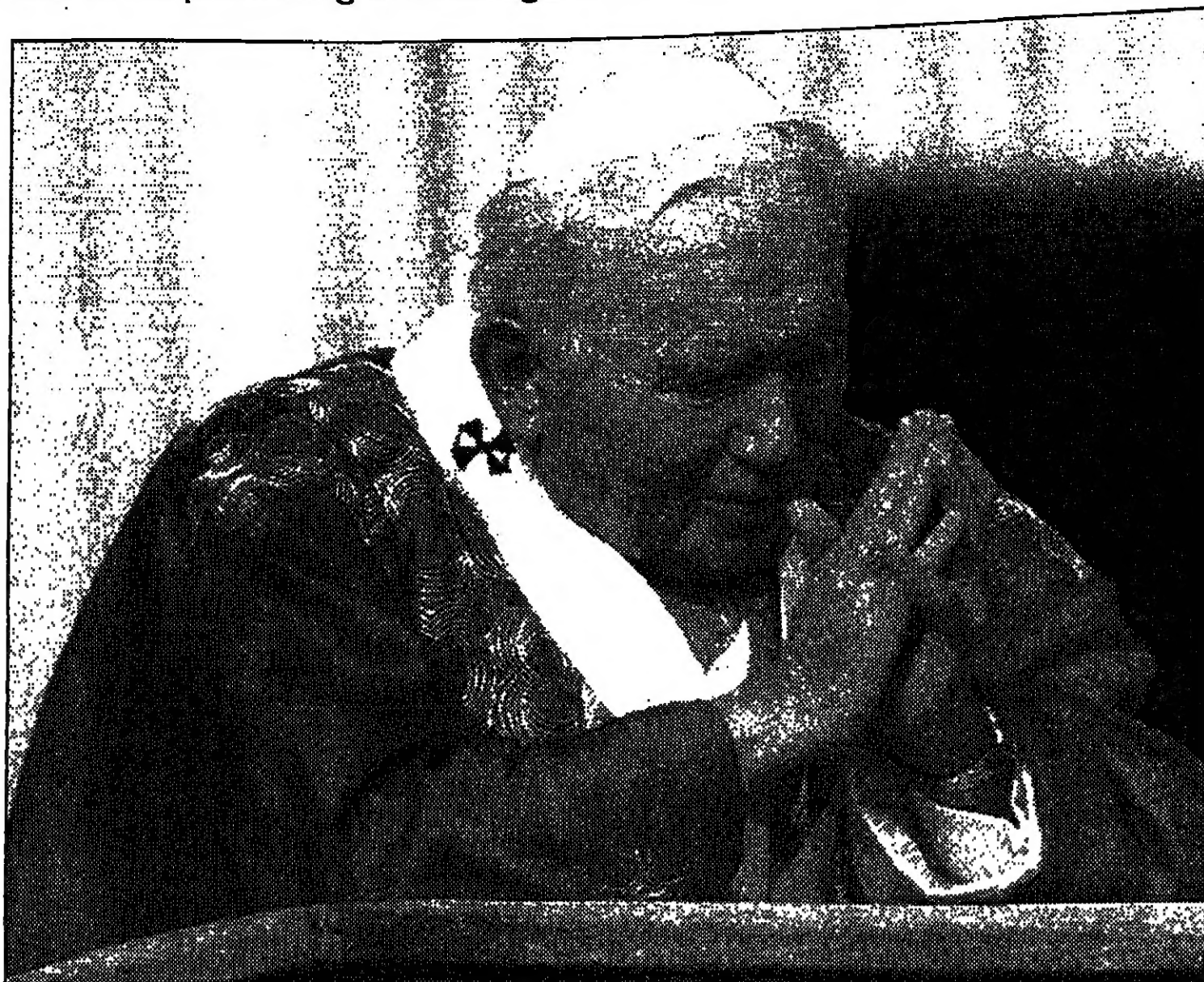
In Nigeria, he said the exploitation of the poor and ignorant was a crime against God's work; in Colombia he berated those living in luxury and in Brazil, he argued that peasants should be able to work their own land.

He "condemned apartheid" in South Africa, defended workers' rights in South Korea and the right of Brazilians to belong to trade unions. And in an unprecedented act for a pope, he donned a miner's helmet in Bolivia to show his solidarity.

For those living behind the barbed-wire borders of the former Soviet bloc, the pope was no less a hero.

The pope became a guiding light and ultimately the protector of Poland's Solidarity movement in its struggle against Communist rule — events that led ultimately to the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Mikhail Gorbachev, Moscow's last Communist president, wrote after the collapse of the Soviet Union: "One can say that everything that has happened in Eastern Europe in recent years would have been impossible without the pope's efforts and the enormous role, including the political role, he has played on the world arena."



The first non-Italian pope in nearly 500 years threw off many of the stiff trappings of the papacy to travel the world, embrace the old and dying, kiss babies and become a media superstar. (AP)

THE enduring image of the pope's fight for religious freedom worldwide and his vehemence toward atheism was no better illustrated than on his trip to Nicaragua in 1983.

Like a messianic figure from the early years of the Roman Catholic Church, the pope, shouting to be overheard over their chants, bore down on Marxist Sandinistas, almost wielding the cross above his head.

This was the authoritarian pope, a pope who would not truck with change but have to face challenges within his own church.

POPE John Paul, who regarded liberal theological scholars with suspicion, crushed dissent.

Bishops and other clergy wedded to the idea of "liberation theology" in Latin America, cooperating with leftist forces against dictatorial repression, were replaced or retired.

In 1986, Father Charles Curran was relieved of his teaching post at the Catholic University of Washington after preaching that the Church should recognize divorce and stable gay relationships.

French bishop Jacques Gaillot was removed from his diocese in 1995 after speaking in favor of married priests and the use of condoms by people suffering from

HIV.

Theologians were not immune. "Consultations" at the Vatican were likened to a modern-day Inquisition, pressing opponents to recant. The punishment: little more than exile to an intellectual gulag.

Swiss theologian Hans Kueng refused the invitation to the Vatican to discuss his work that questioned the dogma of papal infallibility. He was removed as lecturer at the University of Tuebingen and stripped of his title of Catholic theologian.

Brazilian theologian Leonardo Boff, a Franciscan, was condemned in 1985 to a year of silence and forbidden to teach or publish books after using Marxist language to criticize the Church as having a "colonial pact" with the ruling classes.

Just last month, John Paul reiterated the Church's teachings on moral issues that incense many within the liberal wing of church. He defended the encyclical of Pope Paul VI banning contraception and attacked homosexual marriage.

"Today, more than ever, it is necessary to recover the sense of marriage as a pact of life in which a man and woman bond themselves forever," he said.

He refuses to consider allowing divorced or remarried people to take communion unless they

abstain from sexual relations.

A poll in Italy in 1995 found more than 50 percent of Catholics in favor of divorce and premarital sex. But polls have never bothered the pope.

"The Church does not depend on the criteria of numbers and fashion," the pontiff once said.

The pope has prevented any discussion of the ordination of women — a topic that has contributed to a new frostiness in relations with the Anglican Church.

Vatican diplomats successfully opposed the inclusion of abortion rights language in a UN document at the 1994 Cairo conference on population and development.

CAN a pope who championed democratic rights all over the world continue to run the Church as an absolute monarchy?

A growing split between liberals and traditionalists in Catholic Austria widened when the country's primate, Cardinal Hans Hermann Groer was accused of sexually abusing minors.

The movement, "We are the Church!", argues for the very changes that are anathema to Pope John Paul — married priests, women clergy, and the appointment of bishops only with consultation with the local diocese.

The movement has spread to

Germany, Belgium, Italy and the US.

Reformist Austrian priest Ugo Fischer said in June: "The pope is an old and sick man and the Vatican is like Moscow in the last years of the Brezhnev era."

Tensions and divisions within the Catholic Church in such key countries as the US cannot be ignored, reformists say, but they expect little change under Pope John Paul.

It is one of the arguments against a long papacy and for the election of another relatively young cardinal as his successor.

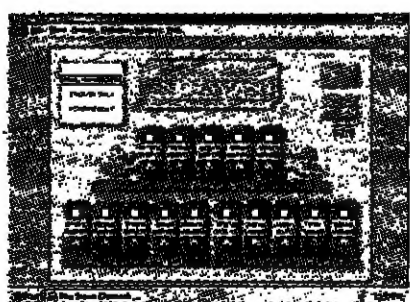
The Church has to adapt to the modern world if it wants to keep believers in the pews and to have enough priests to stand in the pulpit, they say.

As the pope has appointed nearly 90% of the cardinals who will elect his successor, conservatives may win the day.

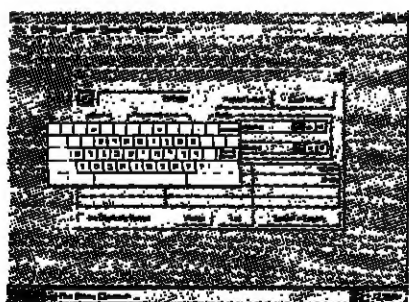
But Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini of Milan, mentioned as a possible successor, has proposed studying the possibility of women becoming deacons, and has described priestly celibacy as an historical decision that could be changed.

Any real change, even on these two issues, would have as profound an effect on the Roman Catholic Church at the start of the 21st century as Pope John Paul had in the 20th. (Reuters)

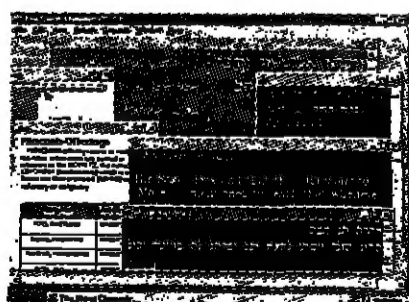
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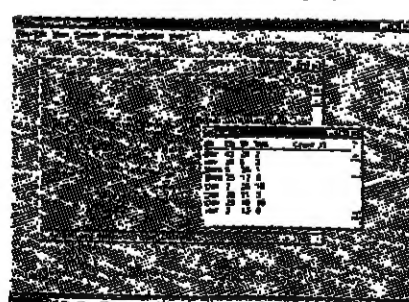
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סדרה מן הארץ

US claims breakthrough in Kosovo

By VESELIN TOSHKOV

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — US envoy Richard Holbrooke claimed a breakthrough in efforts to end the Kosovo crisis after week-long talks with President Slobodan Milosevic.

But, he warned, "we're not out of the emergency yet." He said it's up to Milosevic's government to prove its commitment to international demands it has agreed to honor.

President Bill Clinton said yesterday he is satisfied that international monitoring in Kosovo will give NATO leaders the facts they need to decide whether Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic should be spared air attacks to end months of bloody repression in Kosovo.

"I'm very pleased about where we are today because we are not dependent on hope," Clinton said in brief remarks at the White House.

Milosevic consented Monday to withdraw his forces from Kosovo, begin peace negotiations with separatist ethnic Albanians and allow some 2,000 international observers into the troubled Kosovo province.

After late night meetings in Brussels, Holbrooke returned yesterday to Belgrade and reached the agreement with Milosevic.

"We hope this will mark a turning point in the right direction. But the proof... is in compliance with UN resolution 1199 and with actions on the ground in Kosovo," the US trouble-shooter said.

In a rare national television address, the Yugoslav leader declared that the agreements "avert the danger of a military intervention

against our country." "Our task is to accelerate the political process and economic recovery of our country as a whole," Milosevic said.

It was the first time the Yugoslav president had addressed the nation since the 1995 Dayton peace accords which ended the war in neighboring Bosnia.

Yesterday's developments capped a dramatic series of developments to force an end to Milosevic's crackdown against ethnic Albanian rebels in the southern province in Serbia, the dominant Yugoslav republic.

Before his television address, Milosevic said the agreement demonstrated his government's commitment to the peace process, but also reflected his position that the demands are unwarranted.

"The steps which our country is taking to solve the Kosovo problems by peaceful means show our firm commitment that all questions can be solved by political means, but also the determination to protect the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty," he said in a statement.

Since the crackdown began Feb. 28, Milosevic has insisted the crisis was an internal matter in which foreign powers should play no role. The crackdown was aimed at crushing the Kosovo Liberation Army, fighting for independence of the majority Albanian province, which is a part of the Yugoslav republic of Serbia.

Hundreds of people have been killed in Kosovo and hundreds of thousands of people have been forced from their homes during the seven-month operation.

International leaders stepped up



US envoy Richard Holbrooke covers his eyes during a press conference in Belgrade yesterday. He said that Yugoslavia has agreed to international ground and air verification of its compliance with UN resolutions on Kosovo.

efforts to resolve the crisis because of fears that thousands of homeless refugees would die if they could not return to their homes by the time winter sets in. Yugoslavia expects that the verification mission, to be led by the

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, "will eliminate false, untrue and malicious reports about the situation in Kosovo," Milosevic said in his statement.

To make sure Milosevic abides

by the agreement, NATO agreed early yesterday on the final step needed to authorize airstrikes.

The 16-nation alliance set a four-day deadline for Milosevic to begin complying with international demands.

NEWS

in brief

Ex-US Army code breaker charged as spy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI yesterday charged a former analyst with the US Army's supersecret National Security Agency with selling top defense secrets to the Soviet Union during 1988-1991 for \$60,000. David Sheldon Boone, 46, who has been living in Germany, was arrested after being lured to Washington by an FBI sting, in which agents posed as spies for Russia trying to get him to resume spying, the Justice Department said. The government said the information he delivered to a Soviet KGB agent included details of US targeting of tactical nuclear weapons in case of a Soviet nuclear attack and of the US military's interception of signals intelligence.

New UK campaign-funding laws proposed

LONDON (AP) — A government-appointed committee yesterday recommended a 20 million pound (\$34 million) limit on spending by political parties for national elections and compulsory disclosure of big campaign donations to deter influence-buying in British politics. "Many members of the public believe that the policies of the major political parties have been influenced by large donors, while ignorance about the sources of funding has fostered suspicion," committee chairman Lord Neill said.

One killed as plane crashes into US home

BOWIE, Maryland (AP) — A plane for a traffic-reporting service crashed into a suburban home in thick fog yesterday, killing the pilot and critically injuring the reporter. Two residents of the house, which was set afire, escaped unharmed. Veteran pilot Douglas Duff, 42, of Alexandria, Virginia, died in the crash.

German theater drops alleged antisemitic play

FRANKFURT (AP) — An avant-garde theater in Berlin has backed down on plans to perform a play Jewish leaders have criticized as antisemitic, saying it would instead invite an Israeli company to stage the piece in Germany next year.

Negotiators hope to reach US budget deal

By JIM ABRAMS

WASHINGTON (AP) — With a budget agreement within sight, negotiators were digging yesterday for what could be bruising battles over education, family planning and other divisive issues.

"We're highly motivated to hang tough," said Rep. Vic Fazio of California, chairman of the House Democratic Caucus. "I think we have momentum on our side."

Republican leaders have expressed confidence that after a week of intense negotiations they would finish by yesterday all but the details of a giant bill needed to fund US government programs in the fiscal year that began October 1.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott and other Republican leaders said a completed bill could move to the House and Senate floors as early as today. "Maybe that's an optimistic goal, but I think it's clearly achievable based on what we have reached agreement on," Lott said.

But House Democrats, after a party meeting in the morning, said they were not satisfied with the Republican response to President Bill Clinton's demands for money to hire more elementary school teachers and build more schools.

"There is no resolution at all on school construction, which our people feel is very, very important and very necessary in this bill," House Democratic leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri said. He said the issues of extending pre-

scription contraceptives for federal workers and the use of statistical sampling for the 2000 census are still unresolved.

On the Republican side, Senate Budget Committee chairman Pete Domenici said on ABC's *Good Morning America* that the dispute over whether control over dispensing money for new teachers should be national or local, as Republicans want, is "going to be a sticking point, but it'll be resolved today."

White House chief of staff Erskine Bowles named education and the environment as two big obstacles to an agreement. Clinton wants \$1.1 billion more in the budget for his proposal to hire 100,000 more elementary school teachers. Republicans have agreed to the spending, but their proposal would turn the money directly over to local school districts and would ban new federal testing of students.

The bill would wrap together eight of the 13 annual spending bills that had not become law when the new fiscal year began on October 1. It would include spending of about \$500 billion — nearly one-third of the federal budget — for programs in the areas of health, education, labor, foreign aid, and law enforcement.

To avoid a repeat of the government shutdowns of the winter of 1995-96, the House and Senate on Monday approved their third temporary measure to keep the government open. This time the extension lasts until midnight tonight.

Quantum physicists and chemists win Nobel prizes

By JONATHAN LYNN

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) — Three quantum physicists and two quantum chemists won Nobel Prizes yesterday for their discoveries about the building blocks of matter.

The prestigious awards confirmed the dominance of American science, as all work at US institutions.

US physicist Robert Laughlin and Daniel Tsui and German scientist Horst Störmer shared the 1998 Nobel Prize in physics.

Austrian-born Walter Kohn and Briton John Pople shared the prize in chemistry.

The two prizes, awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, are each worth \$970,000.

Laughlin, Tsui, and Störmer won the prize for their work on how electrons behave in magnetic fields, a branch of particle physics which has already yielded a rich crop of Nobel prizes.

Their discoveries in quantum mechanics — the rules by which very small particles like electrons move — are significant for the miniaturization of electronic products.

"This discovery could be a breakthrough in the barrier that limits the smallness of computers, televisions, and mobile phones," Anders Barany, associate professor of theoretical atomic physics at Stockholm University, told Reuters. "This could be the micro-electronics of the next century."

Laughlin, born in 1950 and a professor at Stanford University, said he went "bananas" when he heard the news. "I am hoping to

use this as a soapbox to tell people how really fantastic nature is and to drive home the idea that there are new things in the world all over the place. If you only have eyes to see them," he told NBC's KRON television station.

Laughlin said their discovery probably did not have a practical application that would produce a new gadget, "but the main utility for a discovery is in a sense a knowledge base for discovering bigger things, like what happens in the universe."

Kohn and Pople, described by the academy as the two most prominent figures in the enormous theoretical and computational developments which are revolutionizing chemistry, made it possible to model new chemicals in a computer as an alternative to chemical experiments.

Their work has applications from pharmaceuticals — seeing how a new drug would work — to the environment.

Störmer was born in 1949 in Frankfurt and is now a professor at Columbia University. Tsui was born in 1939 in Henan, China, and is now a US citizen and professor at Princeton University.

Kohn, born in Vienna in 1923, works at the department of physics at the University of California at Santa Barbara, where he headed the Institute of Theoretical Physics from 1979 to 1984.

Pople, born in England in 1925 and still a British citizen, has been professor of chemistry at Northwestern University in Chicago since 1986.

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THE PUBLIC IS ENTITLED TO KNOW THE TRUTH

- There is no truth in the allegations that Generali was in breach of its obligations under policies issued to Holocaust victims.
- Information relating to policies issued by Generali Branches in East and Central Europe in the years preceding World War II, is provided to any interested party on request.
- The assertion that Generali was "enriched" by retaining money which belonged to Holocaust victims — is untrue.

Recent publications in the media that Generali has withdrawn from its agreement to create a \$100 million dollar fund for payment to assureds or successors of assureds of Generali, who have perished in the Holocaust, are taken out of context and are therefore distortions.

Generali has joined, on a voluntary basis, the International Commission Process established under the Memorandum of Understanding of September 14, 1998 with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners of the United States.

Immediately after World War II, in 1945, Generali's entire insurance business in Central and East European Countries (Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, etc.) was nationalized; from then on the obligations under the policies applied to the respective entities of the governments which took over. Consequently, all its assets in those countries, including assets designated by law to secure its insurance obligations under policies issued by Generali branches in various countries in Central and East Europe, were confiscated. The policies issued by the Generali Branches in those countries were local policies, subject to the laws and regulations of the respective countries. Those State acts frustrated Generali's responsibilities under the policies and deprived Generali of its assets designated for payment to its assureds whether Jews or non-Jews and whether or not they became victims of the Holocaust. The characterization of Generali as discriminating against insureds who were Holocaust victims is thus untrue. The assertion that Generali was enriched by money designated for its insureds who perished in the Holocaust is malicious. Generali was no longer obligated under the policies issued in those countries and could not recognize claims made under such policies, whether the assured was Jewish or non Jewish. Generali did, and does, naturally, pay amounts due under policies issued in countries where its business was not nationalized and confiscated, both to Jews and non Jews.

The allegations that Generali has used "Jewish money" to acquire the shares of Migdal are malicious and not worthy of a serious response. Such public allegations are a cynical and baseless abuse of the Holocaust.

Generali is a company with a strong affinity to the history of the Jewish people and to the State of Israel. In the days of the Fascist and Nazi domination of Trieste Generali was persecuted as a "Jewish Company". The Chairman of the Board of Generali, Antoine Bernheim, is himself a Holocaust survivor whose parents perished in the concentration camps. Generali was a founder of Migdal in 1935. Since the 1950's it has held a 27% stake in the company. In 1997 Generali acquired from Bank Leumi and from the public in Israel approximately an additional 32% of Migdal. The acquisition represented the largest unleveraged foreign investment in a financial company in Israel and did not originate in local Bank financing. By this acquisition Migdal became a full fledged member of an international insurance group — presently, the only company of its kind.

In connection with the acquisition of Migdal, Generali voluntarily established a trust fund in memory of its assureds in East and Central Europe who perished in the Holocaust. The Fund is managed by five Trustees headed by retired Supreme Court Justice Dov Levin.

Generali is the only European insurance company which has, to date, voluntarily computerized the names of assureds to whom policies were issued as far back as 70 years ago and until 1945, as reported by its various branch offices. To the best of its knowledge, so far, Generali is the only company to have established an information center which provides information to any applicant. The existence of the Information Center was advertised by Generali in the major newspapers in Jewish centers worldwide.

Generali provided Yad Vashem with a list of the names of insureds in East and Central Europe, to aid Yad Vashem in the compilation of the names of Holocaust victims, assisting Yad Vashem in its endeavors.

On August 19, 1998 a Settlement Agreement was entered between Generali and the Council for Plaintiffs in an Action filed against Generali and others in the Federal Court of New York, according to which Generali was to establish a \$100 million dollar fund. The fund was to provide for payment of claims under policies recognized by the Committee, and payments to a memorial fund.

Simultaneously, Generali signed on August 19, 1998 a Letter of Intent with the representatives of the Plaintiffs and representatives of the World Jewish Restitution Organization, under which Generali undertook to sign a Memorandum of Understanding which established a mechanism for resolving and paying Holocaust heirs insurance claims.

In order to ensure consistency in the process of payment under both procedures, it was recognized by all that the procedures under the Settlement Agreement with Plaintiffs in the Class Action and under the International Commission process should be harmonized.

The Board of Directors of Generali approved both Agreements subject to the acceptance and the endorsement of all parties involved and to the establishment of a coordinated process pursuant to the two. Indeed, Generali's duties towards its shareholders and current assureds do not enable the assumption by it of payments of unspecified and unlimited amounts which do not arise from existing obligations.

Unfortunately, no agreement was reached between the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and Plaintiffs Counsel and, accordingly, the Settlement Agreement has not come into effect. Pursuant to the Board resolution, Generali has now become a participant in the International Commission process under the Memorandum of Understanding and will follow the procedures to be established by the International Commission.

Generali reaffirms its commitments to the Jewish people and to the economic welfare of the State of Israel.

These are the facts and the public is entitled that they be brought to its attention.

Wyoming reflects on gay killing

By JULIE CART

LARAMIE, Wyo. — Students at the University of Wyoming, already shocked by the savage beating of a gay student last week, returned to school on Monday to find flags on the leafy campus riding at half mast.

The flags snapping in a cool fall breeze sent a silent signal of more horrid news to the student body.

"I looked up, saw the flags and thought, 'Oh, my God, Matthew's dead,'" said Shannon Rexroat, a senior who edits the campus newspaper.

"The entire campus is in shock and outraged. I teach an orientation class for freshmen. Most of them can't imagine anyone with enough hate in them to do this. Many of their parents sent them here because it is supposed to be so safe."

The death of Matthew Shepard, a popular political science student, left emotions raw in this windswept prairie town. Shepard died early Monday morning at Poudre Valley Hospital, about 100 km. away in Fort Collins, Colo. The 21-year-old had been on life support since he arrived last Thursday with severe head trauma.

Shepard's family, who had traveled from Saudi Arabia to be at his bedside, issued a statement urging

parents to hug their children and enjoy every day with them.

Police say Shepard was beaten, lashed to a fence post and left to die by two Laramie men who later espoused anti-gay sentiments.

Authorities said the main motive appeared to be robbery, but indicated Monday that the charges against the two would be upgraded to murder.

Shepard's death brought immediate calls for legislative change both in Wyoming and nationally. President Bill Clinton called the beating an "evil act" and urged Congress Monday to strengthen laws against hate crimes.

That call echoed even more loudly in Wyoming, one of only eight states that does not have a hate crimes law. A bill that would have created extra penalties for criminals who target victims because of their race, religion or sexual orientation died in the state Senate in February.

Many in Wyoming, which proudly calls itself the Equality State because it was the first state to allow women's suffrage, are now looking inward.

State Rep. Mike Massie, a Democrat from Laramie, the who co-sponsored of three unsuccessful "bias crime" bills, said he would try again.

"I hope we recognize the reason for it and call it Matthew's Law —

like Megan's Law in New Jersey — so we can have something positive come out of this tragic death."

ON campus, yellow ribbons marked with green circles, signs of sympathy for Shepard, could be seen wrapped around pony-tails and tied to backpacks. Many students and faculty were wearing "Straight but not Narrow" buttons. All over, impromptu discussions of attitudes about homosexuality were taking place.

"Is there approval of homosexuality in Wyoming? Absolutely not. Is there social activism against it? No," said Susanna Godwin, director of the university's Ethics Center. "Laramie is a fairly comfortable place to live. So I thought."

Shepard's death coincided with the first day of Gay Awareness Week on the 10,000-student campus. Steve Hassheider and Phil Underwood were working at the table sponsored by the campus' Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Association.

"We've been getting a lot of support around campus," said Hassheider, watching a parade of denim-clad students shuffle past his table in the Student Union.

"Last year you could see people veering away from the table, afraid to even be seen near it."

Hassheider was heartened by

this reaction but said he and his friends know to be discreet about their sexuality in Laramie.

Underwood, a social work student, worried that the show of support will turn out to be short-lived.

"Our greatest concern is that the authorities in Wyoming are going to back off, saying it is was an isolated incident," he said. "No hate crime bill, no more awareness."

Jeannie Crofts, a 20-year-old student who grew up in Wyoming, said she'd seen gay friends in high school beaten up but never imagined such anti-gay brutality was possible here.

"I think about him out there, tied to a fence for 18 or 20 hours — what was going through his head? It's too terrible for me to even think someone would do that," she said.

Russell Henderson, 21, and Aaron McKinney, 22, were charged with kidnapping, aggravated robbery and first-degree murder, charges that could bring the death penalty.

Two women described as the pair's girlfriends, Kristen Leann Price, 18, and Chastity Vera Pasley, 20, have been charged as accessories after the fact to first-degree murder.

LAST Tuesday night, Shepard attended a meeting of the campus gay and lesbian organization,

which was planning Gay Awareness Week. At the meeting, the groups' president told of an incident in which he was harassed near the campus' Fraternity Row and advised students to be careful.

After the meeting Shepard asked a female friend if she wanted to stop at the Fireside Bar, a popular lounge. The friend begged off, saying that she had to study.

At the bar, police said, Henderson and McKinney, both high school dropouts, told Shepard that they were gay in order to lure him outside. They left in McKinney's truck, beating Shepard as they drove.

Once they reached the edge of town, police said, the men lashed Shepard to a wooden ranch fence and continued beating him, smashing his skull with a .357 magnum handgun. Shepard continued to beg for his life until he lost consciousness.

Shepard remained by the side of the road for 18 hours until mountain bikers noticed him.

Police say the men stole Shepard's wallet and shoes. But McKinney's girlfriend told the *Denver Post* that McKinney said Shepard had embarrassed him by making a pass at him in the bar. To get back at the student, McKinney and Henderson decided to take his money. (Los Angeles Times)

Coffee break

US First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton (right) sips coffee at the famous Slavia Cafe in downtown Prague with Czech President Vaclav Havel (left) after she addressed the Forum 2000 conference of political and religious activists. (AP)

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While the forests burn

Though Israel has had to contend with man-made disasters throughout its history, as a country we are blessed with relative freedom from the natural variety. We have no hurricanes, massive floods, tornadoes, or volcanic eruptions, nor are we unusually prone to earthquakes. Each time a snowstorm hits Jerusalem, the authorities remind us that such events are so rare that the expense of specialized equipment cannot be justified to avoid a day or so of inconvenience.

While the stoic approach may make sense with regard to snowstorms, which do not cause lasting damage, the same cannot be said concerning forest fires. As a semi-arid nation, we do not have enormous forests that, in other countries, sometimes burn for weeks before being brought under control. But it is this very lack of natural forests that should motivate us to make extraordinary efforts to protect a scarce national resource. It is an anomaly that a nation that so prides itself on "making the desert green," and for whom planting trees has symbolized the heart of the Zionist enterprise, would allow the task of firefighting to languish from disorganization and neglect.

The inadequate state of the nation's firefighting capabilities is well known and long lamented. The greatest outcry arose after the enormous fire in the Jerusalem Corridor in 1995, which burned about 20,000 dunams (5,000 acres) of forest. As of yesterday, the fires raging in the Mt. Carmel area and elsewhere in the nation for the past three days had claimed over 8,000 dunams.

The commission established to investigate the Jerusalem Corridor conflagration, chaired by Maj.-Gen. (res.) Amos Lapidot, found what almost every report before or since has found: there are too few firefighters and they are poorly trained, equipped, and organized.

Israel has 24 separate firefighting authorities, which are considered municipal or regional services, but are regulated by the Interior Ministry. On different occasions, the government has proposed revising this arrangement along the lines recommended by the Lapidot Commission, namely under a single, national authority. The law has still not been changed.

But even the most rationally organized force needs to be of sufficient size. The rough international standard is one firefighter per 1,000 population. Israel has about 1,200 firefighters,

which is one-fifth of this international standard. In many cases, the number of firefighters is much less than is stipulated even by the fire authorities' own stated requirements.

Perhaps the most disturbing of the Lapidot Commission findings, amply illustrated by the fires still being brought under control in the North as of this writing, is that the Fire and Rescue Service is "not equipped to handle large and extensive fires." In fact, the fire authorities do not have any helicopters of their own, but must rely on air force helicopters to do the job. The IDF points out that its helicopters are not designed for firefighting, and that it is not compensated for providing such services.

Forestry experts argue that dry pine forests, as are found in the Carmel and Jerusalem areas, are particularly flammable, and that attempts to put out major fires in such forests from the ground are doomed to failure. These experts argue that the delays caused by the absence of a dedicated aerial firefighting capability mean that fires that could have been brought under control quickly instead cause tremendous damage.

The government has announced that the Interior and Finance ministers will meet in the coming days to find increased funding for the war against forest fires. But while more funding is of course necessary, it is just as important to finally implement the repeated recommendations to reorganize the entire effort. Israel is not such a poor country that it cannot afford a small, professional force of aerial firefighters, with helicopters and airplanes specially equipped for the task. Obviously, a prerequisite for creating such a unit would be establishing a national fire authority, since no single region can or should be responsible for combating major fires.

In the meantime, the politicians and the public can do their part by taking to heart an unpleasant fact: about 90 percent of the fires are not really "natural" disasters at all, but set by people. The police think that some of the fires in the current national epidemic may have been arson with "nationalist" motives. There is no reason to rush to conclusions on this score, as President Ezer Weizman did when he crassly linked the fires with poor treatment of the Israeli-Arab sector. Instead, the president should have used whatever influence he has to urge Israeli campers and smokers - who in any case set more fires through negligence than do anti-Israel arsonists - to be more careful.

The big fire



Netanyahu's trump card

DAVID NEWMAN

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has come a long way since his first, muddled year in power. By giving the Foreign Ministry portfolio to Ariel Sharon, and by convincing the National Religious Party to stay in his government even if he goes ahead with the next stage of the withdrawal from the West Bank, he has shown himself to be a master craftsman at his chosen profession - controlling and manipulating the corridors of power.

Netanyahu has played a double winning card. Whatever happens, he wins. If he goes ahead in Washington and, despite Sharon's presence and the continued right-wing opposition, signs a new agreement with the Palestinians, he will have the support of well over two-thirds of the Knesset, including many MKs from his own right-wing camp who had previously threatened to oppose him.

If, yet again, the deal were to fall apart, then his slender right-wing majority will back him to the last MK, should the opposition present a new no-confidence motion. And if the bill for early elections were to be pushed ahead because of his failure to deliver, it is by no means certain that Netanyahu would fall from power. There are simply too many party and personal interests at play, interests which, in the corridors of power, take precedence over the mere signing of a peace agreement.

The key to this political maneuvering has been complex. But it has centered principally on the threat to his government from the extreme Right, the settler movement and the National Religious Party, rather than from the left-wing opposition.

The holiday newspapers were full of adverts and media stunts by the various settler organizations opposed to any further deals with the Palestinians. Despite Netanyahu's statements to the contrary, it is unlikely he is overtly dismayed by such activity. By playing up the vociferous opposi-

tion of the settlers and their supporters, Netanyahu is able to show the Clinton administration that his hands are partially tied, that he cannot simply deliver an agreement which would result in the collapse of his government.

It has been the continued pressure from the Right which has also enabled Netanyahu to change the peace discourse during his two

By giving the Foreign Ministry to Ariel Sharon and by placating the National Religious Party, Netanyahu has shown himself to be in total control

years in power. Immediately prior to the 1996 elections, many of the settler groups were, albeit begrudgingly, accepting that further large-scale withdrawal would take place, and that some isolated settlements would have to be evacuated.

But the continued opposing of the settler movement during the past two years has been partially responsible for the fact that the current negotiations deal with no more than thirteen percent of the region.

TRUE, they continue to oppose even a thirteen percent withdrawal. But Netanyahu is well aware of the political pressure cooker within which they operate, and he has successfully sprung the political trap to ensure their continued support, even if he does finally go ahead and undertake the next stage of withdrawal.

Despite their statements to the contrary, it was always highly unlikely that the National Religious Party would ever leave the government for ideological reasons. They have only ever spent one long period of time out of office - from 1992-1996.

During this period, they lost what they had always considered as their divine birthright - the right to control the Religious Affairs Ministry and the Interior Ministry - to Shas. The NRP leaders are far more aware than their settler supporters that should they opt to leave the government, they would be responsible for even further weakening their power base, particularly funding for their educational institutions and political appointees on religious councils.

Not only does Netanyahu understand the political fears of the NRP, he also understands that it is Shas, rather than David Levy and his Geshet faction, that now controls the electoral strings of the Mizrahi population in Israel. Netanyahu is convinced Levy is finished, and no longer offers any threat to the Likud, present or future.

The Foreign Affairs portfolio, kept in storage for Levy's return to government, can now be offered to Sharon. Not only does this mark the political death knell for Levy in the Likud, it also serves to even further placate the right wing who continue to see Sharon as one of their main champions in government.

Netanyahu has played his cards just right. He has played the internal political fears of the various political parties off against his handling of the peace negotiations. He knows the NRP will not leave the government and that they will find every public excuse or apology for staying inside. He knows David Levy and Geshet no longer offer a threat to his future electoral chances. And he knows, that there is little real opposition to be expected from the one source it should really come from - namely the Labor Party.

The truth be told, he couldn't have it better.

WE have here a problem of an undistributed middle, as the logicians classify it. If the South alone is truly fired up about Clinton, how is it that the "media" in New York are so avid to do the work of the fundamentalist, far-right South?

Where do Styrone et al get the impression that the Southerners are uniquely the tritoseous waiting to see royal blood spill? Well, now, I took the question to Dr. Gallup. And he did a regional poll released on October 7.

Question: Based on what you know at this point, do you think that Bill Clinton should or should not be impeached and removed from office?

South. Yes, should impeach. 32 percent.

How does that question line up elsewhere? Southwest is 32.

Private labor

RUTHIE BLUM

When 36-year-old Hadija Suad arrived at the Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed to give birth to her seventh child, she came equipped with only the standard pregnancy card and a request for a caesarean section. She'd had very difficult deliveries prior to this one - she explained to the staff on duty - and the baby in her belly, by all accounts, was a whopper.

The staff saw no particular reason to heed Suad's plea, however, as nothing in their own examination led them to take the word of a mother of six - one who hadn't even registered to give birth in their ward.

Four hours later, Suad was left with a 9-pound corpse on her hands - one whose head had been ripped off of its body by the attending specialist and assisting obstetrics personnel.

After breaking the tragic news of the newborn's death to the exhausted mother - who had just undergone precisely the kind of delivery she had feared - the medical team stitched the baby's head back onto its body.

Whether this was done in order to cover up the horrific botch-up, as the mourning family believes, or whether it was done in order to allow the baby to be buried with its head, is now up to the courts to decide.

But one thing is certain: shuddering pregnant women all over the country must now be scraping their savings so as to be able to "go private." What they must know in their hearts is that Had Suad been a private patient of the obstetrician who delivered her baby, the outcome undoubtedly would have been different.

DISCUSSING the devastating decapitation with a group of women a few days ago, it struck me that there is hardly a mother in Israel who doesn't have at least one anecdote to tell about

Suad was left with a 9-pound corpse on her hands - one whose head had been tugged off of its body

being dismissed as ignorant, hysterical or as having a low threshold for pain by at least one member of the ob-gyn community. Unless she pays through the nose, that is.

Then she is given the respect due to the bearer of womb and carrier of fetus that she is. As soon as the few thousand shekels are promised by her to the doctor who is to deliver her baby, all of her observations, fears, complaints and questions are given legitimacy. And following delivery, her postpartum symptoms are given full attention.

One friend recounted the tale of nearly being turned away from the hospital when she arrived to give birth to her second child, since the staff "didn't believe" her small stomach was really a full-term pregnancy. It was not until she "proved" to them that she was indeed in her 40th week, that they even agreed to examine her.

Another told of having her early labor diagnosed as diarrhea - a few hours before delivering a premature baby.

Another recalled being sent home in spite of her sense that her C-section incision was not healing properly. The doctor on duty insisted that she was feeling the "normal pain" women suffer after having a caesarean, and told her to take any over-the-counter pain killer. The next day, this woman ended up back in the emergency room with a raging fever and roaring infection.

And then there is my own story. After remembering my previous experiences with Kupat Holim-funded deliveries, I decided to splurge on a private doctor to deliver my twins.

When the time came to give birth, it was the middle of a Friday night, and I ended up being taken by ambulance to the hospital. When we pulled up to the entrance of the maternity ward, the driver rang the intercom and told the midwife on duty to open the door.

She refused. "I've got a high-risk pregnancy here!" he argued. "Let her walk around to the front," she retorted. Left with no choice, I waddled, doubled over, the extra few hundred meters.

When I entered and announced that I was a private patient of Dr. L., her entire demeanor changed. From that moment on, until I exited the hospital three days later, I was treated like someone with a head on my shoulders.

Had poor Hadija Suad been able to afford private care, her

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ISRAELI IRRIDENTISTS

Sir, - Stan Goodman accuses the Palestinian National Movement of being "irredentist," in his letter "Self-deception" (September 28).

The term "irredentism" came up first in Italy at the end of the nineteenth century, referring to the expansionist precursors of Italian fascism who - not content with the successful creation of the state of Italy - sought to create a "Greater Italy" and annex neighboring territories on the basis of various "historical rights." Later, the term was extended to similar movements in other countries.

Clear for all to see, it is not Yasser

Arafat and the movement he heads who are "irredentist." They represent a people, the Palestinians, whose right to self-determination and statehood have not yet been fulfilled, and who now aspire to a state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which are altogether only 30% of Mandatory Palestine.

The true irredentists in the Middle East are to be found among us here in Israel: those (of whom Stan Goodman is evidently one) who are not content with the fulfillment of Jewish national aspirations by the creation of Israel in 1948, nor with the fact that in 1949, the international community recog-

nized Israel within boundaries far wider than those originally envisaged in the UN partition plan.

It is the Israeli irredentists who debate and reduce the Bible to the status of a "real-estate claim" and who seek to deny to the Palestinians any share of the land which our two peoples share.

And the deterioration in Israel's international position is to be directly traced to the prevalence of such irredentist tendencies among the policy-makers in the Netanyahu government.

Holon. ADAM KELLER

CHAZAN'S MOTIVES

Sir, - Naomi Chazan should have approached the Jerusalem Great Synagogue for a comment prior to writing her article, "Violence and leadership" (October 9). Her "facts" were taken from elsewhere, and I regret that Chazan unfortunately has misled your readers.

On the eve of Yom Kippur, no synagogue officials were in the building. The banqueting hall - leased to an independent contractor - was host-

ing a *brit mila* to a family unrelated and unknown to the synagogue.

The guard mentioned in the article was not associated with the synagogue, for when the synagogue is not functioning, the security is provided by the hall.

The fact that someone whose aim is to become mayor of the city throws mud on the synagogue - a prime institution in Jerusalem known for its tolerance and open

doors for all - without studying the facts, reflects on the integrity and interests of the writer.

It is not the synagogue's behavior that is questionable, it is the motives of Naomi Chazan.

Jerusalem. ZALI JAFFE
Vice President,
The Jerusalem
Great Synagogue.

POSITIVE PALESTINIAN REPORTING

Sir, - We hear a lot about our government's demands that Palestinian Television stop transmitting the image of "the ugly Israeli."

In order to enable the Palestinian broadcasters to stop doing so, it is up to the Israeli side to offer the "good news."

That is definitely not provided by the ongoing campaign of demolishing the houses which Palestinians build on their own

land and out of their own pocket.

Since military rule does not provide "government-funded housing projects" for Palestinians in the still occupied 70% of the West Bank, and hardly hands out permits, these "emergency self-help building projects" are mostly "illegal."

Proof that Palestinian Television, which shows these facts critically, is not "anti-Israeli" was given on last Saturday night's Palestinian

news. In a news item of several minutes, there was a report on the hundred Israelis who came with Uri Avnery to rebuild a demolished house - together with the afflicted Fakhia family and their neighbors - in the village of Katana. No trace of Jew hatred there.

Tel Aviv. BEATE ZILVERSMIDT

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On October 14, 1948, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that Egyptian forces had occupied new positions in the Negev and continued an indiscriminate shelling and bombing of Jewish settlements. In Jerusalem Arab snipers fired at persons leaving the Yeshurun Synagogue after the Yom Kippur service. There were

Arab Legion and the Egyptian forces in the Bethlehem area.

25 years ago: On October 14, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Israeli thrust into Syria, which broadened into a 21-km. front, remained static. A total of about 130 Syrian and Iraqi tanks were destroyed. The Israel

enemy planes - 19 Syrian and six Egyptian - bringing to 280 the number of enemy planes destroyed in the first eight days of war.

The US reported that it would start replacing some of the Israeli losses in planes, tanks and other military equipment.

Alexander Zaidi

سكدا س الالعيل

Returning children to the wonder of nature



By Ruth Mason

It is not so important to know as to feel when introducing children to the natural world, Rachel Carson wrote in *The Sense of Wonder*.

In his classic little book, *Sharing Nature with Children*, naturalist Joseph Cornell gives us the tools with which to feel the wonder and awe that "the unutterable beauty of a blossom" or the "grace of a high-flying bird" can evoke.

The world our children live in is becoming more and more mechanized, more and more overpopulated, more and more consumer-oriented. Ask youngsters about their favorite activities, and you'll most likely find they involve machines like televisions and computers.

Children are missing out on the critical experience that spending time in untamed nature can bring: a sense of the mystery of life, the majesty of nature and the smallness of humanity.

To help introduce our children to nature and recapture some of what he's been lost, Cornell compiled a book of 42 games where nature is

the teacher and we are all her students.

You can play these games with your family, or at a child's birthday party. It's cheaper — and far better — than hiring a clown!

Cornell offers five principles to help channel the penchant for mischief into something more constructive:

1. Teach less, share more. Rather than giving children facts about a tree or a mountain, tell them how it makes you feel, what it arouses in you.

2. Be receptive. Listen to children, and be aware of their reactions. Respect a child's thoughts, curiosity and exclamations, and use them as opportunities to communicate.

Tune in to what's happening in nature around you. "Something exciting or interesting is almost always happening," Cornell writes.

3. Focus the child's attention without delay. Involve everyone by asking questions and pointing out interesting goings-on.

4. Look and experience first; talk later. Look at ordinary things with close attention. Feel and smell a tree's bark and leaves; let children use their natural capacity to become absorbed in things.

5. A sense of joy should permeate the experience. Let your own enthusiasm show — it will be contagious.

Here are some games to play.

• Meet a tree. Divide into pairs and blindfold your partner. Lead your partner through a forest or grove and up to a tree.

Help your partner explore the tree by asking questions and giving

instructions such as, "Feel the tree," "rub your cheek against the bark," "Can you put your arms around it?" "Can you find plants growing on it?"

Then lead your partner back to where you began. Remove the blindfold and see if he or she can find the tree.

• Duplication. Prepare by gathering 10 commonly found objects such as stones, seeds, pinecones or leaves.

Place them on one handkerchief and cover them with another. Tell the children that you will lift the cloth for 30 seconds, and that they should try to remember everything they see. Then send them out to find the same objects.

After five minutes, call them back. With a flourish, pull the objects out from under the handkerchief one at a time, and see how many children have found that particular object.

• What animal am I? Pin a picture of an animal on a child's back and show it to the other children. Have the child guess what animal he or she is by asking the children questions they can answer only with yes, no or maybe.

• Heartbeat of a tree. Did you



Closeness to an animal evokes a sense of the beauty and mystery of life.

know that you can hear a tree's "heartbeat" with an ordinary stethoscope? The best time for this experiment is early spring, when trees begin sending sap up their trunks to their branches.

Choose a tree with a thin bark whose trunk is at least 15 cm. in diameter. Press the stethoscope firmly against the tree, keeping it motionless. You may need to try different places on the tree. When you succeed, you'll hear a crackling, gurgling sound. Have kids compare the sound with their own heartbeats.

• Nature scavenger hunt, a variation on the classic game. Be sure to collect only things that can be returned without damage.

Some examples for your list: a feather; exactly 100 of something; a thorn; three different kinds of seed; something round, and something fuzzy.

Then you could get five pieces of litter; something perfectly straight; something beautiful; something that makes a noise, and something white. Finally, collect something that reminds you of yourself — and then collect a big smile!

Carpenter with a cause — saving infants' lives

Cindy Loose tells the story of a stubborn grandmother with few resources but an iron will who has realized her dream of a Washington birthing center that will be 'an escape hatch from despair'

To explain how she came at age 71 to be opening a birthing center in a poor District of Columbia neighborhood, Ruth Lubic first has to tell about the things that have been bothering her for decades.

The sickly babies she saw in tenement houses during a nurse-midwife career that began in 1961. The child sitting on the floor of a Mississippi sharecropper's cabin, covered with flies, her hair reddened by malnutrition.

That visit to Mississippi was 30 years ago, but Lubic still cries when she quotes the state health official who told her not to worry so much, "some Negroes got red hair."

When the phone call came five years ago telling her she'd won a MacArthur "genius grant," she knew right away what she would do. She would come to the nation's capital and build a model of infant mortality prevention.

Never mind that she was a white-haired grandmother from New York City, a carpenter without a building, or millions to run such an operation, or staff, or permits, or city connections. She did have her MacArthur grant of \$75,000 a year for five years; she had the power of her convictions.

And she's actually pulling it off. This month, the new nonprofit she formed began a \$1.2 million renovation of an empty supermarket donated by John Hechinger Sr. and his family partnership. The D.C. Developing Families Center will open on Benning Road NE across from a Hechinger-developed mall in early spring.

For the price of a hospital delivery, she and her partners can deliver a baby, offer a wealth of services to the mother, and nurture the child for three years.

Although it is a far commute from her life and home on Manhattan's Upper West Side, Washington was an easy choice for Lubic. The city's infant mortality rate of 14.4 per 1,000 — double the national average — "has always been on my professional conscience," Lubic said. Besides, a center here would be only a cab ride away for policy-makers who might be persuaded to replicate the model nationwide.

At a time of life when even the most driven type-A personalities are slowing down, Lubic took on one of her biggest projects ever. Those who have come into her path describe her as single-minded, forceful. She calls herself a "stubborn old woman."

Asked why she would take on what seemed an impossible task, she answered: "People are used to the idea that Ruth is a little crazy. But I'm the age I am, I've had my career, I've been honored and all that. I have nothing to lose."

Soon after being awarded the MacArthur grant, Lubic quit her job as director of the Maternity Center Association in Manhattan. She and her husband took turns flying between cities for visits. She settled in an apartment in Southwest Washington and launched her assault.

Hechinger still seems amazed that he let Lubic talk him out of the building and 1.2 acres of property — land he had planned to develop. He gave it up only after Lubic had badgered him and his real estate

solid years.

"We both told her over and over again it would never, never, ever happen," Garibaldi said. "We explained this was our business entity, that as individuals we give charitable contributions, but this is our business here." But Lubic wore them down.

"She can soften you up because she's so intellectually and emotionally sure of the rightness of her cause," Hechinger said. "When she's through with you, you have this guilt feeling. Plus you're shocked at the statistics which prove she's right."

WHILE she was working on Hechinger, Lubic also was banging on doors all over town.

"The women we'll reach have been put down and let down their whole lives," she would say. "The doors of this building are going to be an escape hatch from despair."

She haunted the hallways of the Department of Health and Human Services, and gained a chance encounter with Secretary Donna E. Shalala. Through a friend of a friend, she wrangled a meeting with former HHS secretary Louis W. Sullivan. Over breakfast, she turned him into a major fund-raiser who helped her march a \$785,000 grant within a three-month deadline.

Over the course of the years, people mighty and small fell under the spell of her vision.

As Hechinger put it, "I personally was a victim of her strongest characteristic: tenacity. She's a bulldog who envelops you in the rightness of her cause."

Thick wire cables dangled in the dark, empty shell boarded up with plywood. Glass cracked underfoot as fellow visionary Delores Farr walked a few paces and paused. "I want you to know I'm standing in my office," she said.

"Your office is closer to that window, isn't it?" Lubic asked, pointing toward a blank concrete wall.

Down there on one end, where the store's dairy section once was located, will be the entrance for pregnant women coming for delivery or pre- or postnatal care.

Women needing social services and day care will enter on the other side. High-risk patients will deliver at Howard University Hospital, where nurse-midwives will have admitting privileges.

It's not surprising that Lubic and Farr can visualize in the dark shell a bright center bustling with patients and clients. Both could see it in their minds before they'd even identified a site.

IN 1994, a friend told Lubic that she should look up Farr, director of the Healthy Babies Project, a private nonprofit group.

Farr and her workers walk the



For Ruth Lubic, shown right at a Healthy Babies Project clinic in Washington, the impossible really does take just a little longer. (Washington Post)

They visit crack houses, liquor stores, beauty shops — anywhere they might find a pregnant woman and persuade her to get prenatal care. They offer parenting classes, counseling, help with obtaining addiction treatment. Lubic's birthing center, Farr agreed, would be a perfect place to relocate.

"Meeting Ruth was like a dream come true," Farr said. "We immediately saw eye to eye on the needs and issues. We've been joined at the hip ever since."

There were so many obstacles — getting a place and raising millions of dollars was just the start. They needed all kinds of permits from D.C. health officials, building officials, zoning officials. They needed

assurances of Medicaid reimbursement, legal help, partnership with a hospital.

People told them it would never happen. You can't even get pot-holes around here fixed, they said.

But they kept on pushing with the plan. They will get to pregnant women early through the Healthy

Babies outreach. The birthing center, Lubic hopes, will give women more control over their pregnancies. And because birthing center deliveries cost 30 to 60 percent less than hospital deliveries, she said, the savings could help fund other services. Lubic persuaded city officials to designate her still-imaginary center as a future welfare-to-work site. Still, they would need day care for the clients for whom they found jobs.

So in 1996, Lubic and Farr met with Travis Hardmon, of the National Child Day Care Association. At that point, the center lived only in their imaginations, but how would he feel, they asked, about organizing child care for infants and toddlers?

"His eyes lit up," Lubic said. "Since then, he's been the answer to a maiden's prayer."

Hardmon secured reinforcements in the battle to get the Hechinger property. He brought in Bill Davis, a project manager with nonprofit development experience, and "things then really started coming together," Lubic said.

While the Hechinger family considered various proposals at quarterly meetings, Lubic landed planning grants from two national foundations and an anonymous donor. The first big breakthrough came

about a year ago, when city officials discovered that millions in unspent grants were about to revert to the federal government unless quickly allocated.

"We ran like crazy" to put together a proposal, Lubic said. The city awarded \$785,000 on the condition that the money be matched within a few months — a seemingly impossible goal. But Sullivan, the former HHS secretary, soon became the second answer to a maiden's prayer.

Sullivan, now president of the Marchoe School of Medicine, had agreed to a friend's request to meet with Lubic and was "immediately impressed," he said.

He contacted a friend at Bristol Myers Squibb Co., Dick Thompson, who secured a donation from his company. Thompson then got his friends at other drug companies to arrange corporate donations.

Sullivan said a lawyer friend set up a meeting for him with Katharine Graham, chairman of the executive committee of The Washington Post Co. Two foundations set up in honor of her parents and husband donated a total of \$100,000. Lubic's former employer in New York kicked in another \$100,000, law firms helped, and the match was made.

A \$1.2 million grant awarded last month by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will help with operating costs.

The building donated by the Hechinger family came with a contingency clause — that Lubic would run the center for at least three years. "I laughed when I heard the condition and answered, 'God willing,'" Lubic said.

Her son, Douglas, a New York lawyer, said Hechinger can count on Lubic to persevere.

"The day she stops working for what she believes is right," he said, "will be the day she dies."

(Los Angeles Times)

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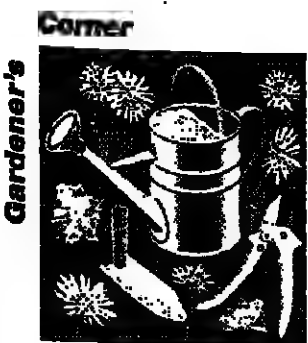
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By Batsheva Mink

How contained glory can brighten the great indoors

Gardening in pots and containers has become both a trend and a necessity, as more and more people live in apartments or have gardens so small that plants have to be grown in containers. But there are many attractive solutions for the determined gardener with a creative spirit.

Plants have been grown in decorative containers for thousands of years. We know that the ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans grew aromatic plants in clay pots.

In southern Spain during the early part of the millennium, the Moors created wonderful intimate gardens using many kinds of containers. In Britain, illustrated manuscripts of the early 12th and 13th centuries, show pots of herbs for medicinal purposes, growing in palaces and monastic gardens.

In the 15th century, ornamental gardens were inspired by the Italians. Their containers were made of stone and lead.

Then, in the 17th century, came the craze for emulating Mediterranean plantings. Citrus trees in large containers were grown in greenhouses during the colder months, were wheeled out to spend the summer months in the open and were returned to the greenhouse as winter approached.

The Victorians paid much attention to the design of the container, creating elaborate designs in many different materials.

Today, specially designed containers can be bought to fit almost any awkward space, such as a window recess, stairway, terrace or balcony.

Hanging baskets can swing around the front door and also be attached to the walls. If you have only a doorway, this too can be filled with hanging baskets draped above the doorway and on either side.

Window boxes are especially suited to the apartment dweller. They are easy to look after and can be enjoyed from both inside and outside. They are also an option for those who find it difficult or impossible to bend or dig.

It is essential to consider your window's position when choosing your plants. There are plants to suit shady spots, such as under an awning or porch; dry sunny sites; windy spots, and warm, sheltered areas.

Another important point to consider is whether you want the box to be seen or be covered by plants. If you want it hidden, remember to include a few trailing plants in the arrangement e.g. lobelia, ivy or

alysium. A decorative window box can be used to enhance the brick or paintwork of the house or the style of the window.

PLANTS can be grown in virtually anything that holds soil - even large tin cans, provided there are drainage holes. An attractive holder adds a great deal to the appearance of the display, but you have to assure that the pot or box fits the plants to be used and the conditions of your area.

Most plants are easy to grow. Water, fertilizer, a good potting mix with some added volcanic stone for drainage meet the requirements of most plants.

Ready-made soil mixtures are available, but you can try mixing your own. A good general mixture consists of three parts soil, two parts peat moss (Heb: *kavul*) and one part fine sand or volcanic rock (Heb: *tuf*). Don't forget to add some slow-release fertilizer to the mixture, according to the directions on the packet.

Because container gardening is essentially unnatural, these plants depend on their owners for a little more care and attention than those planted in the ground. This is because plants growing in a regular garden can send their roots out far and wide to search for food and moisture.

Regular watering is important. The soil should never be allowed to dry out completely. If it is a peat-based mixture, you will find it very difficult to wet, because dry peat moss repels water.

Fertilize every four months with a slow-release fertilizer or dilute a general fertilizer (20-20-20) in water and apply every 10 days. Remember never give any plants fertilizer if the soil is dry; water it first.

Cutting away dead flowers helps to prolong flowering. If you want to collect the seeds, leave a few flower heads to ripen. It's amazing how well plants settle in as long as they are planted correctly.

It is not always wise to buy the plant with the most flowers. It is more important to choose one with a strong root system. Generally, a few roots growing through the bottom of the pot is a good sign, but an excessive number of roots sticking out is best avoided.

Look for strong-growing stems and shoots. If they are bearing flowers it's fine, but make sure the plant is on the bushy side, rather than tall and leggy.

To ensure plants bush out and become strong enough to bear many flowers, pinch out their growing tips by about 2 cm. at an early stage to ensure good branching habits. Antirrhinums and marigolds are especially enhanced if the tips are pinched out.

Small trees and shrubs, like a palm tree (Heb: *dekul*) offer height and a central focal point in a container garden. The smaller pony-tail palm (*Beaucarnea recurvata*) and the dragon tree (*Dracaena marginata*) look lovely with other, smaller plants around them.

Dwarf fruit trees are even more attractive when they produce fruit. Miniature fig, peach, orange (kumquat) and lemon (limquat) trees have recently come on the Israeli market.

If you prefer a low-maintenance box try mixing a group of evergreens together, like ivy, conifers, euonymus, dwarf lavender, and silver leaf senecio.

Remember to account for the seasons. Spring plants mixed with a few bulbs can be very effective. These are usually planted in the autumn months. For a winter display, the bright colors of dwarf tulips, anemone, crocus and daffodils are very welcome on a dull day.

A few cyclamen plants can always be relied on to give plenty on color during the late autumn, winter and springtime.

Plants that are suitable for planting in container gardens during the autumn are fuchsia, daffodil, hyacinth, anemone, freesia, crocus, phlox, schizanthus, ivy, pansy, primrose, camellia, mimulus, stocks, tulips, godetia and begonia in warmer parts of the country.

In larger containers, try to combine sweet william, foxglove, wallflowers, ranunculus and all the spring bulbs, including lilies.

Batsheva Mink is a curator at the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Givat Ram.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, POB 3943, Jerusalem 91039.



It's easy to achieve a riot of color in your container: Water, fertilizer and a good potting mix with some added volcanic stone for drainage meet the requirements of most plants.



TIP OF THE WEEK

If you have a problem with soil mixture and/or pebbles blowing over your terrace floor after it dries out, spread 2-3 cm. of volcanic stone (Heb: *tuf*) over the surface between the plants. This secures the mix and stops it blowing away.

Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

The ins and outs of dog doors and cat access

One of T.S. Eliot's most entertaining poems is about the cat that was "always on the wrong side of the door."

This situation is only too familiar to pet owners, because most of us have a dog or a cat that always appears to be in this position.

If they are in, they want out. If they're out, they want in. We feel like we're devoting half our energies to serving as doormen for our pets.

The usual suggestion, when this all gets to be too much, is a pet door. But what kind?

A doorway access flap has its drawbacks. Most people find that neighborhood dogs and cats rapidly learn of this access to the riches of home living and make no bones about utilizing it.

It is true that dog doors are less of a problem than cat accesses, because most dogs still possess enough territorial instinct to repel intruders, canine or feline. In fact, dogs can easily make the distinction between "our cats" and "other cats."

This is not always true of cats. They may well make the distinction - but can seem, at times, to be actually inviting friends home for lunch!

All the commercial dog and cat accesses available have their individual drawbacks.

Pet Port, for example, is a circular porthole with folded neoprene sheeting, somewhat like the airlock on incubators or sterile chambers. It opens easily if you press it at the center.

This is supposed to be a good solution because a strange animal, unaccustomed to the system, will not understand just how it opens. But getting one's own pets to



It's a real yawn when you're hungry for lunch and there's no one home to let you in. (Alon Ron)

much, and after fruitless hours of dangling baits and cooing words of encouragement one tends to give up.

EVERYWHERE in the US and Europe, you can buy a pet access port that is locked by an electromagnetic. Only an animal wearing the access key on its collar can open the port.

If an animal with the key approaches within 30 centimeters

the animal has passed through and is a good 30 centimeters beyond, whereupon the port closes.

It sounds great, until you realize that the collar contains a fairly strong magnet that works all the time.

This is really not a problem with dogs, since they generally remain on the floor. But in any number of cases a cat, prowling about on desk-tops and work tables, has caused enormous damage.

afternoon, managed, by her insistent prowling and napping, to erase two boxes of floppy discs, put three glitches in a hard drive and totally invalidate the date, time and redial of a fax machine. All because she was innocently exposing these materials to her magnet.

So, as they say, we pay our money and take our choice. Be a perpetual pet doorman - or out for some other, not necessarily

LONE WOLF

A Biography of Vladimir (Ze'ev) Jabotinsky

by Shmuel Katz

This is the long-awaited English version of the biography of one of the most dramatic figures of 20th century Jewish history - Ze'ev Jabotinsky, founder of Revisionism - journalist, novelist, poet, soldier, linguist and outstanding orator. Shmuel Katz has drawn on archival material, unpublished and newly translated letters, and extensive sources for this account of the center of Zionist history in the 1920's and beyond. Katz himself is known as an author and newspaper columnist; he has used newly available archival documentation in this meticulous and comprehensive biography, from Odessa, 1880 to New York, 1940. Previously published in Hebrew as JABO. Hardcover, 2 vol., 1856pp.

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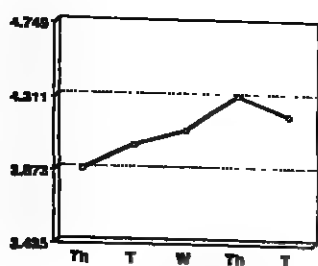
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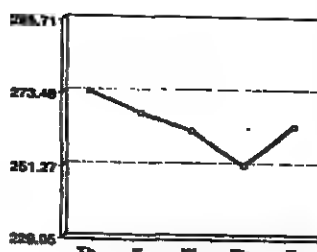
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in brief

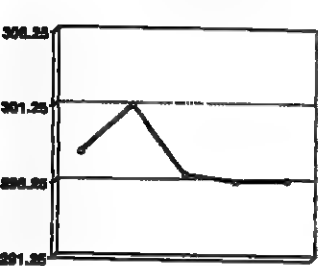
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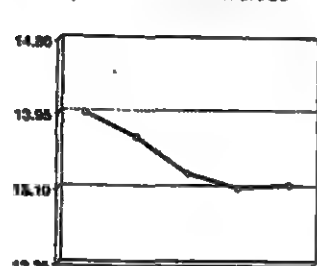
MAOF INDEX



GOLD



OIL



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DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



EL AL duty free sales up 46%

Sales of duty free goods on EL AL flights increased 46 percent to \$7.7 million during the first half of the year compared to the same period last year, the company reported yesterday. Sales are also showing signs of improvement during the second half, according to a statement from the company. *David Zev Harris*

Ya'acobi to call for regional electric grid

Israel Electric Corporation chairman Gad Ya'acobi will today call for the establishment of a Middle East electricity network and a regional power market, according to the IEC. Ya'acobi will recommend such a step when he addresses the Prime Minister's Jubilee Business Summit. The results of a regional peace will include a better power supply, particularly with the purchase of natural gas from Egypt, according to Ya'acobi. *David Zev Harris*

Yozma II raises \$70 million

Yozma II Venture Capital yesterday announced that it has completed the first round of financing by raising \$70 million. The company said that it intends to raise more money in coming months. The fund will invest in companies which have reached the advanced or final stages of product development. Yozma also intends to invest in seed companies in communications, medicine, and software. The fund has invested some \$10m. so far. Yozma was formed by Poalim Capital Markets, the Ofer Group, and Yigal Erlich. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Siemens to open R&D center in PA

Siemens, the German electronics giant, said this week it is to open the first international research and development center in the Palestinian Authority. The center in Ramallah is to be a joint venture between Siemens Data Communications, based in Karmiel, and the Ramallah-based Hi-Tek Engineering. The venture will be launched by Siemens CEO and president Heinrich Prier on Friday. The Peace Technology Fund, launched by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat and former prime minister Shimon Peres last May, is considering participating in the project, which is to be based on 13 Palestinian engineers who were trained over the past 18 months at the Karmiel center. The Palestinian center is to specialize in R&D in the telecom and datacom industries, mainly for Siemens Information and Communications Group. *Nina Gilbert*

Tomato prices down 30%-40%

The recent decision to allow the temporary import of tomatoes has resulted in a 30%-40% drop in prices. The price of choice tomatoes dropped from NIS 9 to NIS 6, while lower quality tomatoes dropped from NIS 6 to NIS 3.5, according to the Agriculture Ministry. The ministry allowed the duty free import of 500 tons of tomatoes, mostly from Holland, due to a sudden boost in prices. The imports can continue until October 25. *Nina Gilbert*

Mutual funds assets drop 2% in September

Nervous trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange led to a 2% drop in September in total assets of mutual funds, according to a report published yesterday by Meitav Securities and Investments. Funds' assets fell to NIS 25.9 billion from NIS 26.4b. a month earlier. The decline is attributed to an average negative yield of 0.9% and redemptions of another NIS 343 million. Meitav experts note that the public moved from funds specializing in stocks and shekel-linked bonds to foreign currency and CFI-linked bonds. This led to a sharp decline in funds' holdings in stocks, which fell to only 22.2% of all investments, the lowest since January 1990. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Sharansky tells 'Post'

'Depreciation will spur growth'

By NINA GILBERT

The depreciation of the shekel will help spur economic growth through better terms for exports and thus may result in a reduction in unemployment, Industry and Trade Minister Naftali Bennett said yesterday.

"We have to appreciate the depreciation," Sharansky told *The Jerusalem Post*. "Finally there is a correction. I think it is good for our export-oriented industries, which is the basis of our growth. This influences 95 percent of the factories which are creating new jobs."

Sharansky said he believes the depreciation - which has resulted in a 10 percent decline in the value of the shekel against the dollar since late August - will help create more jobs, due to lower labor costs. He noted that low-tech industries were especially harmed by the strong shekel, since their products have low added value compared with high-tech.

At the same time, Sharansky acknowledged that things are difficult amid the global economic turmoil. "I don't want to look optimistic in spite of it all. Someone said that Israel is an island of stability in a world of chaos. This is a

dream for the next world. It cannot be like this. After all, we built ourselves as part of globalization."

"We are actively building ourselves as part of the global economy. So now to say that when there is growth, we are part of the world and we are enjoying it, and when there is a crisis, we are an island. This is not so," he said.

However, Sharansky said he believes that Israel is in a better position than many other countries because of its healthy infrastructure, since its exports are based on innovation and a creative labor force, while at the same time it has free trade agreements with the US and Europe.

He said that the fact that Israel's exports are mainly built on using comparative advantage, including its educated and skilled labor force, gives the economy an element of stability at times of difficulty in different markets. "Our strategy is that we are not in a hurry to leave all of these [problematic] markets, including Russia and South Korea." He noted that crisis may create new opportunities for if Israeli industry.

Asked why investors would want to invest here at a time when money is being pulled out of

emerging markets, Sharansky said: "Investments in growing markets are becoming more problematic. But Israel still looks like a much better place than most of the growing markets."

He noted that in 1998, venture capital investments increased. "Every few weeks there is some foreign company making some big purchase here. So I don't see this phenomenon that everyone is saying that now the investments will start running away from Israel. I don't think it is necessarily true."

"Attempts to keep money, equipment, or people here by force are absolutely impossible. Money is invested in Israel, in most cases, because of interest in technological ideas, and in a big part is staying here."

He said investors would continue to invest in innovative products, not just in high-tech.

Sharansky also said that as the peace process strengthens, it will give a boost to regional economic cooperation and foreign investment. "An investment in Israel is an investment in the entire region," he said. "There are many investors who want to invest in Karmi and also in the Middle East."

Merrill Lynch reports 3rd-qr net loss

By LISA KASSENBAUM

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) - Merrill Lynch & Co. said third-quarter earnings fell 75 percent from a year ago as tumbling global markets caused trading losses and the firing of 3,400 employees.

The biggest US brokerage firm said profit from operations fell to \$124 million, or 28 cents a share, from \$502 million, or \$1.24 a share, in the same period a year ago. The company took a \$283 million charge for dismissing 5.2% of its staff and reported a net loss of \$164 million, or 42 cents a share, the first quarterly loss since late 1989.

The results were lower than the average of 48 cents a share analysts forecast in a First Call Corp. survey. Earnings in the securities industry tumbled from records in the first half after Russia defaulted and devalued its currency, sending other markets plunging.

Firms including Goldman Sachs Group LP, Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. reported lower profits for the quarter. "Everything was shut off in August and September," Goldman analyst Richard Strauss said before the report.

Merrill said it expects to save \$500 million through the job cuts and other changes. The firm is also cutting 900 full-time consulting positions. "We anticipate a much more challenging environment ahead," Chief Executive David Komansky and President Herbert Allison said in a statement.

The firm, which had about 65,000 employees before the cuts, said net revenue fell 7% to \$3.85 billion. The revenue, after interest expense, declined 21% from the second quarter, the record period for earnings.

Revenue from principle transactions, or trading for Merrill's own account, fell 71% to \$279 million. The firm said last month that it had a trading loss of \$135 million from emerging markets.



Indonesians protest unpaid loans

Indonesians demonstrate against bankers outside Jakarta's Finance Ministry yesterday. The protesters demand the government take stern measures against bankers who fail to repay the debt provided by the central bank, Bank Indonesia, to help their troubled institutions. *(Reuters)*

IAI, Boeing to sign strategic accord

By STEVE MORAN

The Boeing Co. and Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd. plan to sign a strategic agreement tomorrow to pursue joint ventures in a wide range of military and civilian fields.

Executives from both companies said yesterday the agreement will create a 14-member executive steering committee, chaired by Boeing President and Chief Operating Officer Harry Stonecipher and his IAI counterpart, Moshe Keret.

At a news conference at IAI headquarters outside Ben-Gurion Airport, Keret and Stonecipher reviewed the 30 year relationship between their companies. They said the strategic agreement will elevate links from the level of individual divisions to that of the corporate leadership.

"We said let's have an overarching

approach," Stonecipher said. "We now have a formal process to pursue future opportunities and areas of cooperation that will further the strategic interests of both parties."

IAI executives said the agreement will enable their company to expand significantly its cooperation with Boeing's commercial aerospace operations. Until the merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas last year, IAI, as well as most of the Israeli defense companies, was focused on the St. Louis-based McDonnell, manufacturer of the F-15 combat jet.

"Now that the operations of the two companies have been united, we have large-scale work relations, agreements and joint ventures with Boeing in both the military and civilian areas," Keret said. "The strategic agreement that our two companies will enter during this visit will reinforce the cur-

rent operations and will create numerous future opportunities, which we welcome."

Boeing and IAI are engaged in about \$100 million worth of business, executives said. This includes the joint upgrade of the US Air Force's T-38 Talon jet trainer and IAI's supply of subsystems for the F-15I purchased in 1994 and delivered this year.

Earlier this year, Boeing and IAI's MBT division signed an agreement for the Israeli company to provide subsystems for satellites and ground control stations for the Ellipso communications system. IAI executives said the contract has a potential value of more than \$150 million.

The agreement comes during what is being termed as the last lap of the competition between Boeing's F-15I and Lockheed Martin's F-16 to become the next US combat jet for the Israel Air

Force. A decision is expected by the end of the year.

During his appearance at IAI, Stonecipher, who hours later met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, was cautious not to tout the F-15I. But he maintained that the Boeing-IAI agreement

was not dependent on whether his company wins the IAF competition. Mordechai also met with Lockheed Martin chairman Vance Coffman.

"This is not a relationship built on specific products," Stonecipher said.

Sharon outlines '99 road projects

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Construction of a new road to Jerusalem, an eastern ring road for the capital, and links to the Trans-Israel Highway will begin during the coming year, according to Foreign Minister and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon.

Sharon, recently appointed foreign minister, has been given an additional three months in the infrastructure post to push through as many projects as possible before he concentrates solely on his new job.

The road-building program became possible after the cabinet approved Sharon's demands for extra spending for 1999, granting NIS 500 million more than this year as a result of pressure from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

During yesterday's cabinet debate, meanwhile, Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom said Israel must demand \$1 billion from the United States to fund bypass roads that will be needed in the event of a further redeployment in the territories. This call was backed by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Among Sharon's projects for 1999 are:

- Route 45, a new road into Jerusalem, which will enter the city from the north;
- the eastern section of the ring road around the capital;
- roads connecting to the Trans-Israel Highway, which will be simultaneously under construction - initially, roads will be built from Gedera (Route 7), the Ayalon highway, and Route 551;
- widening the Route 90 stretch from the Mahanayim to Amiad

junction, Route 75 from the Nahalal to Yishai junction, Route 1 from Ben-Gurion Airport to the Ben-Shimon interchange, Route 453 from the Navlat to El Al junction, and Route 35 from the Berechya to Plugot junctions;

• resurfacing Route 38 between Beit Guvrin and Shoker junction;

• building a bridge at Bnot Ya'acov and at various locations in the Arava.

These plans are in addition to the completion of dozens of projects begun this year or earlier.

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Russia to offer new dollar bonds to foreigners

MOSCOW (Bloomberg) - Russia likely will offer new dollar-denominated bonds to foreign holders of 281 billion rubles (\$18b.) of debt the government defaulted on in August.

A proposal being considered would allow foreign bondholders to exchange defaulted debt for new longer term bonds denominated in dollars, said central bank Chairman Viktor Gerashchenko. The option won't be available to Russian bondholders. The new bonds wouldn't

begin to pay interest for at least three years.

The government's proposal signals a change in Russia's approach as it faces a cash crunch. By giving foreign investors preferential treatment over domestic creditors, Russia may hope to regain its ability to borrow billions of dollars abroad to avoid a collapse of its economy.

"The feelings of foreign investors are important for us because that would help us to hold talks about our external debt and these big sums

that must be repaid by Russia in the next two years," Gerashchenko said.

The terms of the arrangement will be announced at the end of the month, Gerashchenko said. The new restructuring terms will arise from negotiations with foreign bondholders.

The central bank also appears to be advocating that Russian banks pay their debts to foreign investors by giving them stakes in the banks.

BUSINESS SCENE By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Amnon Ben-Shimon, director-general of The Book Publishers Association of Israel, has written to Jordanian ambassador Omar Rifai protesting the fact that Israel's ambassador to Jordan Oded Aran and members of the BPAI were expelled from the recent book fair in Amman. The letter to Rifai acknowledges that the unfriendly act was not perpetrated by the Jordanian government, but at the initiative of Ben-Shimon's Jordanian counterpart. Ben-Shimon reminds Rifai that a delegation of Jordanian publishers was welcomed at the Israeli book fair in Rabin Square in Tel Aviv. As a goodwill gesture and proof that Israel harbors no hostility toward Jordan, Ben-Shimon has invited Rifai to the upcoming 60th anniversary celebrations of the BPAI.



Omar Rifai (David Rubinger)

Technology for GE Medical Systems of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a \$4.5 billion world leader in medical diagnostic imaging systems and services. The company's Israel operations are primarily located in Haifa, and by the end of this year, pledged, its presence in Israel will be much more substantial.

Air Canada Executive Vice-President Douglas Poirer during a visit to Israel this month expressed appreciation to local travel agents for their support of Air Canada's Israel office. At a festive dinner attended by travel agents, Rafi Ben-Tzur, who heads Air Canada's Israel office, reported that during the period June-August 1998, there had been a 34 percent increase in ticket sales from Israel. During the first eight months of 1998, the increase in sales corresponding to the same period in 1997 was 46%.

Israeli expatriate Arif (Tzvi) Pfeffer has been appointed president of the tourism division of the American Canadian conglomerate, which is the parent company of Howard Johnson. In his new role, Pfeffer will shoulder the ultimate responsibility for the marketing and sales of the giant organization, which runs the country's eight hotel chains including the 5,500 which operate worldwide under the Howard Johnson flag. A native of Chile, who immigrated to Israel close to three decades ago, Pfeffer served in the Yom Kippur War and then went to the US to study hotel management in Miami, Florida. Starting as a desk clerk at Howard Johnson in Miami, he worked his way up through the chain to a series of senior executive positions. He was instrumental in bringing Howard Johnson to Israel where it is represented by Israel Resort Hotels.

After less than a year with the computer programming company Proactivity, Dan Dinar, 28, has been appointed sales manager of Israel. A Technion economics and business management alumnus, Dinar also held sales and marketing positions at Elcrist and Iscon.

It is not yet certain whether Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will spend a whole week in the US deliberating with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, but if hammering out agreements at their summit meeting with US President Bill Clinton takes longer than anticipated, Clinton will have to excuse himself to attend the Shimon Peres Peace Award dinner. The dinner is being held on October 22 at New York's Tavern on the Green restaurant. Organizers, Americans for Peace Now (APN), announced that tribute will be paid to long-time Middle East peace advocates Stanley Sheinbaum and the Honorable Wayne Owens. Sheinbaum will be this year's recipient of the Shimon Peres Peace Award, while Owens will be presented with the APN Distinguished Public Service Award. Danny Goldberg, chairman and CEO of the Mercury Records Group, is serving as chair of the event. Clinton, together with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Leah Rabin, are serving as honorary dinner chairs. Special guests will include Jehan Sadat, Dalia Rabin-Pelosat and Jakes Pfeffer.

GE Medical Systems has announced the appointment of S. Morry Blumenfeld to the position of managing director of its operations in Israel. According to Jeff Immelt, GE Medical Systems president and CEO, Blumenfeld has been a catalyst for the company's most significant technology breakthroughs over the past 30 years. A native of Toronto, Canada, he has a B.Sc. degree in engineering physics and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in molecular physics from the University of Toronto. Blumenfeld began his career as a research scientist with GE Corporate. Research and Development and was a key leader in GE's development of computed tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance (MRI) scanners. Most recently he served as the general manager of Global Advanced

There's a new enemy: Deflation

People have become so accustomed to the dangers of inflation, they no longer appreciate the hazards of inadequate demand or feel the urgency to try to prevent it

By ROBERT B. REICH

Economic policy-makers have been fighting the last war so long, they can't see they're entering a different battle on the opposite front.

The old war was against inflation. It shaped the fears of those who watched it get out of control in the 1970s. These are the same people who now run the central banks, ministries and international lending institutions.

Yet the inflation war is over. The new enemy approaches from the opposite direction: spiraling deflation.

The generation that witnessed the worldwide Depression of the 1930s remembers what happens when deflation gets out of control. The seeds of the Depression were actually sown in the late 1920s when major industries began suffering insufficient demand. By 1927, purchases of houses, cars and consumer durables were in decline; commodity prices had turned downward and industrial production began to fall.

We are on the verge of a similar global era. But we have become so accustomed to the danger of excessive demand that we no longer appreciate the danger of inadequate demand or feel the urgency of taking preemptive action.

A deflationary spiral can be as dangerous as an inflationary one.

Falling prices squeeze profits, causing companies to reduce wages and cut employment. As a result, workers have less money to buy goods and services, causing prices and profits to drop further. The value of property bought on credit drops below the value of what's owed, resulting in mounting defaults. Lenders are unable to make further loans. The crisis deepens.

A vicious deflationary cycle can also let loose a vicious social cycle, which worsens the economic one. In contrast with periods of strong demand, characterized by low unemployment and rising wages, periods of weak or receding demand lead to higher unemployment and falling wages. Deeper indebtedness combined with higher unemployment can give rise to strikes, work stoppages, changes in democratically elected governments or even violent forms of social unrest. Such social instability further slows the economy and chokes off new investment.

A large, uncoordinated global contraction is already under way.

DEMAND has been contracting in Southeast Asia for over a year, and the consequences have been rippling outward. Many Japanese banks, awash with bad debt, are technically insolvent. They are no longer making loans to small- and medium-sized Japanese companies. Japanese companies that had relied on Southeast Asia as a market for their capital goods exports have lost a large portion of their customers.

Demand is also shrinking in much of Latin America. In an effort to maintain the "confidence" of global investors, Brazil President Fernando Henrique Cardoso last year sharply raised central bank lending rates. The result has been to flatten consumer demand in Latin America's largest market of 160 million people, amid fears of growing unemployment.

Brazil's contraction has rippled through much of the rest of Latin America, where economic austerity is also in vogue. The UN Commission on Trade and Development reports that real wages continue to fall throughout much of Latin America, and inequality is widening. The maintenance of adequate demand requires



Brazil President Fernando Henrique Cardoso last year sharply raised central bank lending rates, which has flattened consumer demand in Latin America's largest market of 160 million people. (AP)

a large and growing middle class, which Latin America may be in danger of losing. Double-digit unemployment continues to haunt much of Europe. Yet the predominant policy moves there have been contractionary as well.

Government deficits have been slashed in order to qualify for the euro, the single European currency. German and French central bankers have been asserting that their short-term rates of 3.3 percent should be the benchmark for the European Central Bank in 1999.

The US economy remains reasonably healthy. Unemployment is lower than it has been in almost a quarter of a century. But there are danger signs here as well. Job growth slowed considerably in

September. Since March, more than 150,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost. Consumer confidence has dropped over the last three months, with a larger dip last month. Average hourly wages rose just 1 cent in September, down from previous months. Exports continue to plummet, and corporate profits are beginning to feel the shock. The stock market continues to slide.

The sluggishness of wages is especially significant given the importance of American household spending in maintaining the forward momentum of the economy. It means that the economy is being propelled largely by household debt - including credit cards, personal loans and mortgages - which continues at record

levels. While it constituted 60% of disposable income at the start of the 1970s, household debt now exceeds 90%.

Economic policy in the United States is not countering the global contraction. Not only has federal spending been slashed and the budget balanced, but the Clinton administration recently touted a \$70 billion surplus for the fiscal year just ended. The White House insists on "saving" the surplus to avoid possible shortfalls in the Social Security trust fund 34 years from now.

As inflation has subsided, real short-term interest rates, set by the Federal Reserve Board, have in effect risen. Even with the Fed's small rate cut last week, real short-term rates continue to be higher than the long-term rates set by the market.

CONSIDER, then, the large picture: An East Asia of toppling currencies and bank insolvency, rising unemployment in Latin America's largest economy and falling real wages throughout the rest of Latin America, continued double-digit unemployment in Europe and a rapidly approaching limit to the capacity of American consumers to take on more debt.

Yet rather than leaning in the opposite direction, public policies are intensifying the contraction. Central bankers, financial ministers and International Monetary Fund officials, acting rationally in their own specific spheres of responsibility, are not seeing the larger picture. Instead of discussing a new "global architecture" for international finance, they should be taking concrete steps to prevent the contraction from turning into a global recession. Here are three.

First, reduce global interest rates. Last week's decision by the Fed to lower short-term interest rates by a quarter-point was a symbolic gesture. The Fed is scheduled to meet twice more before the end of the year. It should phase in a full percentage point cut.

Germany's Bundesbank should follow suit. This week, in Washington, Hans Tietmeyer, head of the Bundesbank, hinted at the possibility of an interest rate cut. But it needs to be more than symbolic. Europe should cut by a full point as well.

Second, shift to deficit spending. This is no time for fiscal austerity. The major nations of the world should be stimulating the global economy. Europe should relax the strict budget requirements for eligibility in the European monetary union.

Similarly, and for the same reason, the United States should use its budget surpluses for tax cuts and for additional spending. Although Japanese interest rates are about as low as they can go, Japan must embark on a major package of spending measures. Bank reorganization is essential, but it will take time. Deficit spending on a large scale must begin immediately.

Third, cease conditioning Third World loans on sharp cuts in public budgets and the imposition of higher interest rates. These measures - insisted on by the IMF and the US Treasury - are smothering the very economies they are seeking to help and intensifying the global contraction already under way.

Changing the direction of public policy is easier than changing the attitudes behind the policies. Policy-makers who for years have sought to pre-empt spiraling inflation must now be equally aggressive in pre-empting spiraling deflation. (The Los Angeles Times)

The writer, a professor of economic and social policy at Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., was secretary of labor during President Clinton's first term.

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סדרה מן הארץ

NBA cancels first two weeks of season

NEW YORK (AP) — For the first time in its history, the National Basketball Association yesterday canceled regular season games because of a work stoppage when talks between owners and players broke off after about 3 1/2 hours.

The games during the first two weeks of the season, Nov. 3-16, will not be played or made up, deputy commissioner Russ Granik said. And with that, the NBA's 51-year streak of 35,001

consecutive games came to an end.

The league had been the only major professional sport in North America that had never lost a game due to a labor dispute.

The players and owners are arguing over rising salaries, among other issues.

The next move will come from the owners, who will deliver a counterproposal later this week. "It doesn't look promising," commissioner David Stern said.

"The reality is that the owners had no choice," Stern and Granik made the announcement late in the afternoon at a midtown Manhattan hotel after the sides had met for two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The players made a counterproposal in the morning, addressing the owners' concern for "cost certainty" by asking for a luxury tax that would be paid by owners who sign players to exorbitant contracts.

Stern said the idea of a tax was something the owners would look at, but by itself it was not enough to stop the league from canceling games for the first time in its history.

"We had a somewhat more constructive dialogue, but it's hard to say if we got closer to an agreement," Granik said. "We promised to come back with our own set of proposals." The owners imposed the lockout July 1, and the summer and early fall passed with the sides meeting only twice

for formal bargaining sessions. The talks Tuesday were the third between the sides.

Patrick Ewing, Dikembe Mutombo, Ray Allen, Antonio Davis and John Starks were among the players who attended the meeting. The owners were represented by Gordon Gund (Cleveland), Les Alexander (Houston), Abe Pollin (Washington) David Checketts (New York) and Jerry Colangelo (Phoenix).

English soccer needs a recovery program

What is it about footballers in this country? If it's not John Harrison's boot connecting with Eyal Berkovic's face, then it's David Beckham's alleged games of "Sex Monopoly" (it was there in sordid detail in one of the Sunday tabloids) with a lady other than the one to whom he is engaged.

And the latest football human-interest story to hit the back (and front) pages is the media's tried and trusted friend, Paul Gascoigne, who has finally admitted to his addiction to the bottle and turned for help.

Gazza was lucky enough to have missed England's latest failure on the pitch. While the best of the rest were struggling with the night of Bulgaria at Wembley, Gazza was in the exclusive Priory Clinic drying out from what presumably was a very wet few days in Dublin.

His club, Middlesbrough, announced that Gascoigne was undergoing treatment, having decided that too many binges spoil the fitness. First to back him were his media friends Danny Baker and Chris Evans, who were with him over the summer when the famous kebab incident took place.

But the story would have been no more than an insert on page six of most newspapers had reformer alcoholic Paul Merson not stepped into the lager and limelight on Monday morning.

At a press conference convened to discuss England's miserable showing against Bulgaria, Merson was asked if he understood what Gascoigne was going through. It was all too much for the Aston Villa star — he broke down

in tears and had to be led away. Given the rigors of modern day football with mathematical-style coaching techniques where fitness is measured to the last drop of sweat, it seems unusual that a number of British players choose to spend a lot of their free time in pubs and clubs getting "slaughtered."

In the Sixties, players would regularly down a combination of 10 pints and 10 fags after a game (for the details read Jimmy Greaves' autobiography *This One's On Me*), and training was little more than a light jog round the perimeter of the pitch.

But with most top clubs employing fitness experts, not to mention sports psychologists, and in the case of England a faith healer, training is much more methodical. Well, perhaps not at West Ham where the word "military" might be more appropriate.

The fall-out from the Harrison-Berkovic episode has not been entirely in the Israeli's favor. While all of the papers agree that Harrison should be severely punished, there have been one or two little "no smoke without fire" pieces which suggest that while Harrison's reaction may not have been appropriate, it was perhaps understandable.

Alan Nixon, writing in the *Sunday People* uncovered a lot of shades in Berkovic's colorful history.

"He (Berkovic) once threw a chair at journalist Yonatan Hileli" and "Berkovic even

got into a half-time row with team-mate Steve Lomas who said he was not working hard enough in Berkovic's first game for the Hammers at Barmsey last season." were two of the more creative pieces of Nixon's investigative journalism.

And when the story broke last week, there was an interesting angle from Gary Ferninger, editor of the West Ham fanzine *Over Land and Sea*. Ferninger said the fans did not like Berkovic because he was not "one of the lads."

"Eyal doesn't like clubbing it with the likes of Rio (Ferdinand) and Frankie (Lampard). He just goes off and does his own thing. Part of being in a team is being with the lads," Ferninger explained.

So there you have it — any player who comes to England from abroad should adopt the local habits of pubs, clubs and Saturday night at the dog track.

And just to prove the point Ferninger added for god measure (sic) that West Ham's French African forward Soumassi Abou loves clubbing with the lads.

In short, being a footballer is an extension of white laddish working-class culture and the risk you run for not being part of the culture is literally having your face kicked in. Before closing the story, one should not forget to mention the fact that Harrison appeared in Swansea Magistrates court last week after allegedly playing football with the hanging plant pots

outside a pub. Unfortunately for West Ham, this year's club sponsors are Doc Martens, famous for manufacturing shoes and boots which have protected the feet of countless defiant groups over the years.

Of course players are supposed to act as role models to fans, but Harrison and Gascoigne's behavior will only fuel the flames of hooliganism which is making an unwelcome return to our stadia after a lengthy absence. Violent incidents at Millwall, Manchester United and Tottenham in recent weeks are a reminder that despite all-seater stadia and the supposed takeover of the game by the middle classes, football's real face is re-emerging, and an ugly mug it is too. Arrests for violence at games has tripled between the 1996-7 season and the last one.

As if all this is not depressing enough, England's performance on the field is enough to drive any fan to drink. Tonight is really Glenn Hoddle's high-noon. Anything other than a resounding victory over Luxembourg and Hoddle will be riding out of the Glenn towards the job center. The press have already made up their minds: "Off with his Head" just about summing up the mood.

Poor Hoddle. A great player who has never quite mastered the art of management, despite achievements at Swindon and Chelsea. After the game on Saturday as the sharks were tapping away their official death sentence on their keyboards, Hoddle tried to explain England's demise. "The Bulgarians clearly came for a point," he told the nation. Unfortunately for Hoddle, they got one.

London Calling



Mark Rivlin

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SPORTS

in brief

Caesarea golf

The four month Eli Kirshner individual matchplay competition has ended with victory going to Yitzhak Dankner who beat Jeff Strubel by three and two ending on the 16th hole last weekend.

Winning this week's alliance two best ball stroke play tournament at Caesarea with a 12 under par 134 strokes were Barton Brass, Ben Hoffman, Shmuelik Futerman and David Edel.

Four strokes behind on 138 were Morris Portner, Ephraim Katzman, Herbert Alon and Jules Cubumek.

Three teams on 141 fought for third place but the best back nine of Cyril and Norma Kaufman, Manuela Fishbein and Judy Reece gave them the advantage.

Last week's month medal tournament was won by Ran Sandler in the A division with the day's best net, a 68.

Judy Reece won in the B division with 70 and Jules Cubumek led in the C division with a 70 net.

Kfar Shmaryahu is out in front after 13 rounds in the Coca Cola golf league with 62 points, followed by Kfar Sava on 36 and Herzliya on 29.

Heather Chait

Tyson deemed 'fit' to fight again

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Mike Tyson was extremely depressed at the time he bit Evander Holyfield's ears and is unlikely to commit such an act again, a medical panel says in a report that finds he is "fit" to return to the ring.

Tyson said he was feeling betrayed by "people I would have died for" leading up to the June 1997 title fight against Holyfield, according to the psychiatric report released yesterday by the state attorney general's office.

The report, by a team of doctors who examined the former heavyweight champion last month, portrays him as lacking in self-esteem and depressed to the point that he took antidepressant drugs in the months following the Holyfield fight.

The report was ordered by the Nevada Athletic Commission as a requirement for Tyson in his attempt to regain his license, which he lost for biting Holyfield. The commission meets next Monday to consider the request.

Aussie cricketers to take pay cut

MELBOURNE (Reuters) — The cream of Australia's cricketers, including star bowler Shane Warne, will have their salaries slashed by up to \$40,000 (\$64,240) a year under a new pay scheme designed to pump more money into developing players.

The deal, between the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) and the Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA), guarantees increased funding for players in the first class Sheffield Shield competition but reduces the salaries of the game's biggest names.

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Jaguars whip Dolphins, stay unbeaten



JACKSONVILLE (Reuters) — Mark Brunell threw a 56-yard touchdown pass to Keenan McCardell with 2:36 to play to keep the Jacksonville Jaguars unbeaten with a 28-21 victory over the Miami Dolphins on Monday.

After Olindo Mare missed a 54-yard field goal for Miami, Brunell fired a bomb down the right side-line with the game tied 21-21.

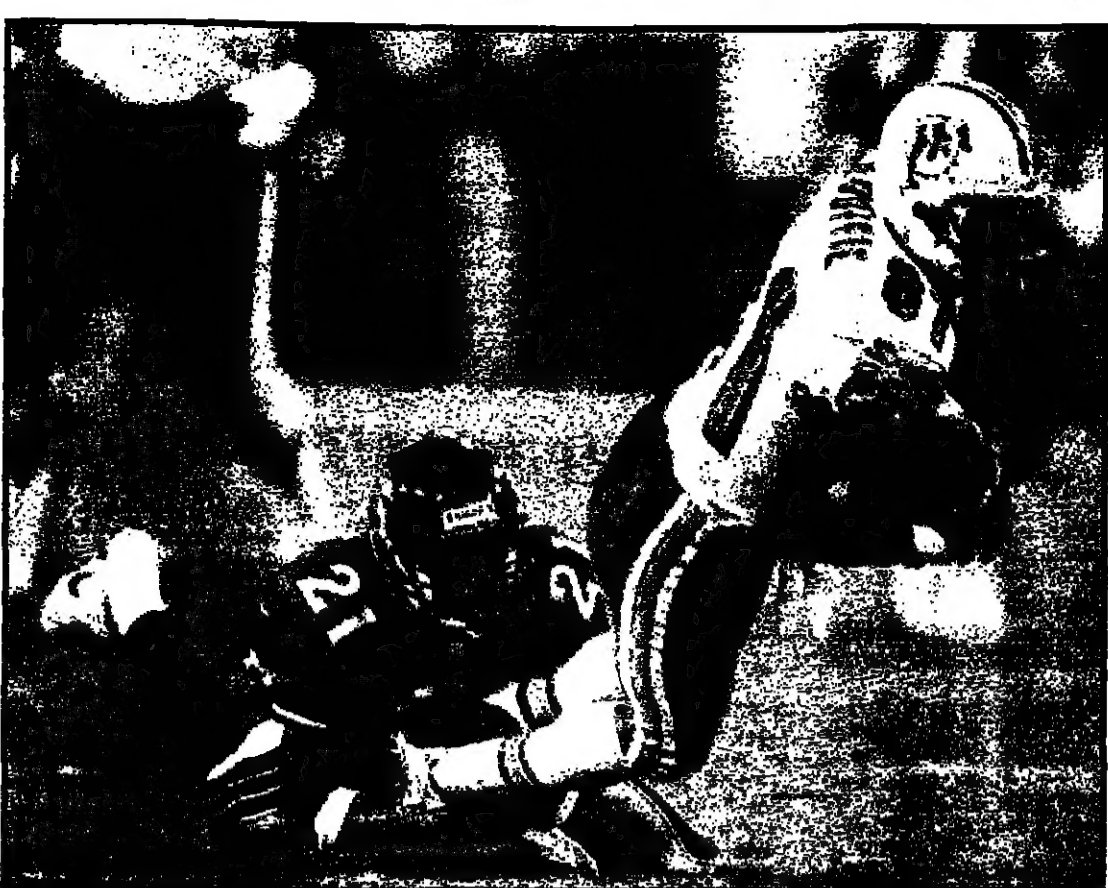
McCardell ran under it, blowing by cornerback Terrell Buckley, and stumbled into the end zone for the go-ahead score, just over nine minutes after catching the tying 23-yard TD pass from Brunell.

"We worked on that, it's a new play for us this week," Brunell said. "We hit it twice, fortunately. You throw it up there and hope the timing's there and it came down where it should, and Keenan made a fine play."

"I basically lost the game on that play. It was basic man-to-man coverage and I didn't get it done," Buckley said. "I pride myself on making plays when it counts and I didn't do it tonight, so I'm very disappointed."

Dan Marino got back the ball with 2:24 to go at his own 34-yard line and drove the Dolphins to the Jacksonville 38. But Jaguars defensive end Tony Brackens, back from a sprained ankle that forced him to miss the first four games, stripped Marino and pounced on the loose ball with 1:51 to play.

Marino had one final chance with 49 seconds remaining, pinned on the 8-yard line, but was



SHORT-GAINER — Dolphins WR OJ McDuffie is tackled by Jaguars' Aaron Beasley after catching a 13-yard pass from Dan Marino in first-quarter action.

unable to significantly move the offense. He completed 30-of-49 passes for 323 yards and two TDs for Miami, which suffered its second straight loss after opening the season 3-0.

"The offensive line did an outstanding job most of the night," Marino said. "They gave me plenty of time to make plays I need to make. I just didn't make enough of them at the end."

Brunell was 12-of-18 for 213

yards and hooked up with McCardell three times for 86 yards as Jacksonville won the first regular-season battle between the AFC teams from Florida.

The Jaguars (5-0) won for the 18th time in 20 home games and took a two-game lead over Pittsburgh in the Central Division. Denver (6-0) and Minnesota (5-0) are the only other unbeaten teams in the NFL.

"We found a way to win and

I'm very happy about that," said Jacksonville coach Tom Coughlin. "These are two very aggressive football teams. Tonight we faced one of the best defenses so far this year. It was a very good test for us." Rookie Fred Taylor staked Jacksonville to a 14-0 lead with a pair of a touchdown runs in the first half, including a 77-yarder on the first play from scrimmage. But he left in the third quarter with a bruised

left shoulder after gaining 89 yards on 12 carries.

Fellow rookie Tavian Banks replaced Taylor and gained 75 yards on nine carries, helping Jacksonville to a franchise-record 186 rushing yards.

MIAMI 0 7 14 0-21
Jacksonville 7 7 0 14-28
First Quarter: Joe-Taylor 77 run (Holtz kick), 14:00. Second Quarter: Joe-Taylor 2 run (Holtz kick), 14:31. Mid-Drayton 2 pass from Marino (Mare kick), 7:41. Third Quarter: Mike-Abdul-Jabbar 1 run (Mare kick), 10:28. Mid-Drayton 15 pass from Marino (Mare kick), 3:28. Fourth Quarter: Joe-McCardell 23 pass from Brunell (Holtz kick), 11:22. Joe-McCardell 56 pass from Brunell (Holtz kick), 2:36. A-74,051.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE									
East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	T
New England	4	1	0	.800	147	86			
Miami	3	2	0	.600	88	70			
Buffalo	2	3	0	.400	111	108			
N.Y. Jets	2	3	0	.400	114	105			
Indianapolis	1	5	0	.167	86	159			
Central									
Jacksonville	5	0	0	1.000	124	92			
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	.600	70	81			
Baltimore	2	3	0	.400	86	90			
Cincinnati	2	3	0	.400	103	115			
Tennessee	2	3	0	.400	80	89			
West									
Denver	4	0	0	1.000	203	109			
Kansas City	4	2	0	.667	118	103			
Oakland	4	2	0	.667	88	117			
Seattle	3	3	0	.500	127	79			
San Diego	2	4	0	.333	70	102			

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
East	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	T
Dallas	4	1	0	.800	162	102			
Arizona	3	3	0	.500	101	121			
N.Y. Giants	2	4	0	.333	112	145			
Philadelphia	1	5	0	.167	69	149			
Washington	0	6	0	.000	86	184			
Central									
Minnesota	5	0	0	1.000	166	96			
Green Bay	4	1	0	.800	135	107			
Tampa Bay	2	3	0	.400	75	99			
Detroit	1	4	0	.200	107	138			
Chicago	1	5	0	.167	116	146			
West									
Atlanta	4	1	0	.800	141	100			
San Francisco	4	1	0	.800	164	84			
New Orleans	3	2	0	.600	89	105			
St. Louis	2	3	0	.400	129	125			
Carolina	0	5	0	.000	101	153			

Dafoe, Hasek notch shutouts

BOSTON (AP) — Byron Dafoe, who had a career-high six shutouts last season, stifled New York with his first of the 1998-99 season Monday as the Boston Bruins beat the Islanders 3-0.

Dmitri Khristich scored his first goal of the season at 14:00 of the opening period and Steve Heinze made it 2-0 with his second at 15:18.

The Islanders lost their opener Saturday 4-3 to the Pittsburgh Penguins, who scored three goals in a 72-second stretch, starting with 4:50 gone in the game.

Dafoe, who stopped 29 shots in a 3-3 season-opening tie Saturday night against the St. Louis Blues, made 28 saves Monday, none better than the ones with about five minutes left in the game. He stopped Jason Dawe's point-blank shot from the slot with his left glove, then smothered Sergei Nemchinov's rebound attempt.

Canucks 4, Kings 2

Host Vancouver, Peter Zessel scored two goals, including the game-winner 10:48 into the third period, as the Canucks won their season opener over the Los Angeles Kings.

N.Y. Islanders 0-0-0
Boston 3-0-3
First Period—1. Boston, Khristich 1 (Allison, Samsonov), 14:00 (pp). 2. Boston, Heinze 2 (Dorval, Ledyard), 15:18. Second Period—None. Third Period—3. Boston, Avelanche 1 (Dimitrova), 13:28. Shots on goal—N.Y. Islanders 7-10-11-28. Boston 6-4-17. Goals—N.Y. Islanders: Sato, Boston: Dafoe, A-14,051.

Los Angeles 1-1-2
Vancouver 0-1-3
First Period—1. Los Angeles, Perreault 2 (Bodger, Tsyglovskiy), 9:03 (pp). Second Period—2. Vancouver, Zessel 1 (Berube, Muckalt), 14:46. 3. Los Angeles, Perreault 3 (Gourdeau, O'Donnell), 17:19 (sh). Third Period—4. Vancouver, Scottchard 1 (Aulton, Brashers), 14:4. 5. Vancouver, Zessel 2 (Ray, Churnd), 10:48 (pp). 6. Vancouver, Moggie 1 (Zetter), 19:18 (en). Shots on goal—Los Angeles 5-11-9-25. Vancouver 10-7-7-24. Goals—Los Angeles: Sator, Vancouver: Zessel, A-18,071.

St. Louis 3-1-0
N.Y. Rangers 0-2-2
First Period—1. St. Louis, MacInnis 1 (Rivers, Campbell), 4:55 (pp). 2. St. Louis, MacInnis 2 (Campbell, Rasmussen), 11:49. 3. St. Louis, MacInnis 3 (Rasmussen), 16:48. Second Period—4. St. Louis, Courtnall 1 (Horseshoe, Demko), 9:05. Third Period—5. New York, Leshch 1 (Kretzsch), 3:48. 6. New York, Karpovskiy 1 (Bundstrom, Kozlov), 11:34. Shots on goal—St. Louis 14-16-15-45. New York 3-4-11-18. Goals—St. Louis: Furr, New York: Richter, Cloutier, A-18,200.

Buffalo 1-1-3
Colorado 0-0-0
First Period—1. Buffalo, Wozniak 1 (Brown, Bernabey), 17:32 (pp). Second Period—2. Buffalo, Peca 1 (Groszek, Woolley), 3:29 (pp). Third Period—3. Buffalo, Zibik 1 (Groszek, Varada), 6:05. Shots on goal—Buffalo 11-11-9-27. Colorado 13-10-32. Goals—Buffalo: Hasek, Colorado: Roy, A-18,027.

Torre: 'All my eggs in one basket'

Yankees turn to Cone for Game 6

NEW YORK (AP) — David Cone watched last October as his New York Yankees teammates were eliminated from the playoffs by the Cleveland Indians.

Last night, he got the opportunity to eliminate Cleveland in Game 6 of the AL championship series.

Cone was knocked out of the first game against the Indians in 1997 and missed the potential clinching game with an injured right shoulder. He endured months of rehabilitation last winter with the goal of pitching a big game again in October.

"I kind of felt like I let our team down last year when I told Joe Torre I was ready to go, and in reality I probably fooled myself," Cone said Monday of last year's Game 1. "It is very gratifying for me to be back in this position."

Torre has called upon Cone to pitch the biggest games in his three years at the helm in New York.

Cone pitched Game 3 of the 1996 World Series in Atlanta with New York down 2-0. He started the first game against Cleveland last season before leaving with the injured shoulder. And Torre used him in the potential momentum-shifting Game 3 against Texas in this year's division series.

"I probably put more trust in David than any other pitcher," Torre said. "So all my eggs are in one basket as far as I am concerned." Cone has more big-game

experience than any other Yankees pitcher, starting 14 postseason games in his career. He has pitched series clinching, series extending and series losing games.

"Twice he has been on the mound in Game 6 — once with his team down 3-2, the other with his team leading. His team won both games, beating Los Angeles in 1988, when he was with the Mets, to extend the NLCS to seven games, and getting a no-decision against Atlanta in Toronto's World Series clinching game in 1992.

Cone knows how to channel his nerves, and he can manage the pressure of the postseason. Cone's counterpart last night has a lengthy postseason resume as well. Charles Nagy has made 11 starts in the playoffs, pitching 7 1/2 shutout innings against Baltimore in Game 6 of the ALCS last year to put the Indians in the World Series.

Nagy was bypassed for the start in Game 7 of the World Series last year and ended up losing it in relief. But he is not worried about the past, focusing only on how to get his team to Game 7.

"There is no secret to what I do," he said. "I am going to go out and throw my sinker, slider, changeup and split. They know that. And if I keep the ball down and if I can get my breaking balls over for strikes, hopefully I will have some success."

Eastern Conference
Atlantic Division
Philadelphia 2 0 0 4 5 1
Pittsburgh 1 0 0 2 4 3
New Jersey 0 1 0 0 1 2
N.Y. Islanders 0 2 0 0 3 7
N.Y. Rangers 0 3 0 0 3 12
Northeast Division
Ottawa 2 0 0 4 8 4
Boston 1 0 1 3 6 3
Montreal 1 0 0 2 7 1
Toronto 1 0 0 2 2 1
Buffalo 1 1 0 2 4 4
Southeast Division
Florida 2 0 0 4 5 1
Washington 1 0 0 2 1 0
Carolina 0 0 1 1 4 4
Tampa Bay 0 1 1 1 5 8
Western Conference
Central Division
St. Louis 1 0 1 3 7 5
Chicago 1 0 0 2 2 1
Detroit 0 1 0 0 1 2
Houston 0 1 0 0 0 1
Northwest Division
Calgary 1 1 0 3 8 6
Vancouver 1 0 0 2 4 2
Edmonton 0 1 0 0 1 2
Colorado 0 2 0 0 3 7
Pacific Division
Dallas 1 0 0 2 4 1
Los Angeles 1 0 0 2 4 5
San Jose 0 1 1 1 6 8
Phoenix 0 1 0 0 1 4

...Cézanne, Chagall, Kandinsky

Toulouse-Lautrec, van Gogh

Monet, Picasso, Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec, van Gogh

Klee, Matisse, Modigliani, Cézanne, Chagall, Kandinsky

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Tucker's 8th-inning HR keeps Braves alive

**No NBA
just yet**
Page 17

Under-21s outplayed by Spain

Group sex	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Netherlands	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Spain	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Cyprus	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Israel	2	1	0	1	1	3	3
Austria	2	0	0	2	1	3	0

The Braves still may have to beat Brown, who pitched a shutout in Game 2, - one more time in this



he rounded first and looked at the spot where the ball landed, as if amazed he really did it against Brown.

including Tucker's to cut San Diego's lead to 2-1. With runners on first and third and Smoltz bunting, the Padres pitched out on

Langston (7), K.Brown (7), Wall (8), Boehringer (9), R.Myers (9) and C.Hernandez. W-Rodger 1-0. L-K.Brown, 1-1. Su-G.Maddux (1). HRs-Albania, Tucker (1), San Diego, Caminfil (2), Vander Wal (1), G.Myers (1).

Manager Bobby Cox then opted to go with Maddux, who hadn't pitched in relief since 1987 when he played for the Chicago Cubs.

Thursday: San Diego at Atlanta, necessary.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1033-1037.

Rivers paced Bursa with 21 points.

Israeli counterpart **Eblana**

The match kicks off at 8 p.m.

	GROUP 6						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	PS
Israel	2	1	1	0	6	1	4

Austria	2	1	1	0	4	F
Cyprus	2	1	0	1	3	G

the U.S. 150